



ORISSA REVIEW

ISSN 0970-8669

JANUARY, 1997



Hon'ble Governor of Orissa Shri G. Ramanujam releasing "THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN—1997" at a function organised by UNICEF at Soochana Bhavan on 11-12-96.



Hon'ble Governor of Orissa Shri G. Ramanujam offering token donation to the Flag Day Fund on 7-12-96 at Raj Bhavan, Bhubaneswar. Secretary Rajya Sainik Board, Col. P. K. Pattnaik and others are present.

ORISSA REVIEW

Vol. LIII No. 6
January, 1997

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The *Orissa Review* aims at disseminating knowledge and information concerning Orissa's socio-economic development, art and culture. Views, records, statistics and information published in the *Orissa Review* are not necessarily those of the Government of Orissa.

For subscription and trade inquiry, contact : Manager, Publications.

Published by the Information & Public Relations Department, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar - 751001 and Printed at Orissa Government Press, Cuttack - 753010

Type Setting by :
Eastern Graphics,

Bhubaneswar-751010, Phone : 480355

Two Rupees / Copy
Twenty Rupees / Yearly

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CHIEF MINISTER SHRI J. B. PATNAIK URGES PRIME MINISTER TO DECLARE NETAJI'S BIRTH PLACE AT CUTTACK AS A NATIONAL MONUMENT

The Netaji Birth Centenary Celebration Committee constituted under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister met in New Delhi on 16-1-1997. Chief Minister Shri J. B. Patnaik drew the attention of the Committee to the need of declaring **Netaji's birth place at Oriya Bazar, Cuttack town** as a national monument. He also strongly pleaded for expansion and modernisation of the charitable Hospital still functioning in the premises of Netaji's birth place. Shri Patnaik advocated for special attention to the **Ravenshaw Collegiate School, Cuttack**, Netaji's Alma Mater and opined that it should be revamped so as to make it a Premier School.

Chief Minister volunteered Orissa Government's willingness to organise a detailed plan and estimate for the work to be undertaken. The Committee accepted the suggestions of the Chief Minister as appropriate measures befitting the Birth Centenary Celebration of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

CHIEF MINISTER INAUGURATES INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON NORTHERN INDIAN OCEAN SEA TURTLE

Chief Minister Sri J. B. Patnaik has urged upon scientists, environmentalists and marine biologists to deliberate on Conservation strategies and develop concrete management plans for effective protection to turtles in the Indian Ocean.

Inaugurating the six-day Workshop on Northern Indian Ocean Sea Turtle at Soochana Bhavan, the Chief Minister said that sea turtles, the descendants of dinosaurs have been roaming in this world for the last 150 million years. Seven different types of sea turtles swim in warm and temperate oceans, come up to the coast of Orissa, Thailand and Bali to nest and lay their eggs.

Shri Patnaik further said that this amazing creature, revered in our folklore and mythology is disappearing because people use parts of turtles for food or more often, to make different products. The commercial fishing trawlers cruise the coastal waters dragging large number of sea turtles. Chief Minister praised the work done by Navy in protecting the endangered species.

Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, Scientific Adviser to Defence Ministry and Secretary, Department of Defence Research and Development showed numerous slides on nesting habits of sea-turtles, their journey up the land. Dr. Kalam also emphasised on greening of land in desert, mountains and valleys for better environment and ecological balance and called for striking a balance between technology, environment and society.

Mr. Douglas Hackie, a scientist and an expert on migratory birds spoke in detail regarding the migratory birds coming to Orissa and hoped that the essence of this workshop would bring in finance from abroad.

Mr. Neca Marcovaldi, Chairperson, MTSG elaborated on aims and objectives of this important workshop. Choudhury G. H. Misry PCCF, Orissa gave the address of welcome. Prof. P. Mohanty Hejmadi, V.C., Sambalpur and a leading environmentalist of Orissa, Prof. G.K. Das, Vice-Chancellor, Utkal University also spoke at the inaugural function.

DEFENCE SHOULD GET PRIORITY IN THE NINTH PLAN

Chief Minister Shri J. B. Patnaik has said that National Defence should receive priority in the formulation of Ninth Plan.

Speaking at the concluding session of the two-day Civil Military Liaison Conference held at the 3rd Floor Conference Hall of Secretariat, the Chief Minister said that Orissa had a glorious martial past. The peasant army of the then king of Orissa known as "Paikas" rose in rebellion against the British regime in 1817 and the Kondhs of Ganjam and Phulbani districts played a significant role in the armed rebellion known as "Kondh Rebellion". But no special regiment was raised from Orissa. Expressing his satisfaction over the new recruitment policy where Orissa is getting its due share of recruitment, he hoped that more and more Oriya boys particularly the Adivasi youth could be recruited by diverting the quota of States where there is lack of interest for recruitment to the army.

The Chief Minister said that the Government of Orissa is giving due attention to the problems of ex-servicemen. In the recruitment policy of the State, 3 percent of jobs have been reserved for ex-servicemen and 5 percent of seats of various colleges are reserved for children of ex-servicemen.

Mr. Patnaik further went to add that India should have a very strong Defence System to guard our boundaries from external aggression. When all other countries are strengthening their defence system day-by-day India should not fall behind and programmes of indigenising weaponry and armaments of war should be given priority in the 9th Plan. He also emphasized on paying adequate attention to the recruitment of armed forces.

Lieutenant General Chandra Shekhar, AVSM, GOC-IN-C, Central Command expressed his thanks to the Chief Minister and the Government of Orissa for their cooperation in making the Conference a success.

MESSAGE OF
SHRI GOPALA RAMANUJAM,
HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF ORISSA
ON THE OCCASION OF THE
48TH REPUBLIC DAY, 1997.



Fellow citizens,

I feel extremely happy to extend my hearty greetings and good wishes to all of you on this historic occasion of the 48th Republic Day. Every Republic Day is an important milestone. It marks the country's progress towards the goals as defined in the Constitution. Every Republic Day provides an opportunity to introspect on the path we had travelled and assess the National goals that we seek to reach.

48 years back, we the people of India gave ourselves a Constitution, which proclaims India as a sovereign, democratic, secular and socialist Republic. The founding fathers of our Constitution not only laid down the fundamental rights to our citizens, but also enunciated the citizens' obligations to the Nation. Gandhiji had taught us that every right is duty-based. Unfortunately, we have become more and more rights-conscious while ignoring our duties. As a result, we are becoming selfish in our thinking and clamouring for rights without discharging our duties to the Nation. It is time to change our attitude and rebuild our Nation on a solid foundation of honesty, truth, sacrifice and service. As we approach the 21st century, we must strive hard to eliminate the divisive forces such as regionalism, casteism, communalism etc. that fracture our society and move towards building a strong united India.

Orissa is endowed with abundant natural and human resources. While we are making efforts to make Orissa a prosperous State, harnessing its resources, the occurrence of natural calamities retard the progress. Presently the State is reeling under the impact of an unprecedented drought, since September, 1996. My Government has taken a series of measures to combat the drought situation. The Secretaries of various Departments of Government have toured in the drought affected districts to prepare an action plan for each district, as a long term remedy for the drought. High powered committees have been constituted to review periodically the drought amelioration plans. Collectors of the districts have been instructed to remain vigilant so as to avert any starvation death. They have also been instructed to implement the drought mitigation programmes on a war footing. Food materials are being supplied through Gratuitous Relief cards to needy persons to avoid starvation. Labour intensive programmes are being implemented in the drought affected districts to provide at least 100 days of wage labour to the persons in distress. Lift Irrigation points are being repaired expeditiously and new lift Irrigation points are also being

set up. Equipment, seeds, fertilizers and pesticides are being provided to the farmers of drought hit areas at subsidised rates. Subsidy in water rates at the rate of 75% has been allowed to provide irrigation during Kharif and at the rate of 50% during Rabi in the entire State. I take this opportunity to appeal to my affluent fellow citizens of the State to donate generously to Chief Minister's Relief Fund.

A new Agriculture Policy, 1996 is being implemented in the State to bring about a revolutionary change in agricultural sector. My Government has given Agriculture the status of "Industry". The policy aims at enhancing the status of agriculture from the level of subsistence agriculture to a profitable, commercial venture, so that the youths could accept it as a means of self employment. Agriculture Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa Limited (APICOL) has been formed with a view to bringing entrepreneurial skills into agriculture.

A new era of prosperity has ushered in, after announcement of the new industrial policy by my Government, which came into force from the 1st March, 1996. The policy intends to harness Orissa's vast natural resources and potential for accelerated industrial growth, consistent with the protection of environment. The New Economic Mission, fashioned by the Chief Minister in the later part of October, 1996, is likely to procure for the State heavy investments in the areas of infrastructure, mining, petrochemicals, food processing, tourism, textiles, electronics, development of roads, ports etc. by big business houses in Japan, Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore.

My Government has introduced a number of welfare schemes for the benefit of the people. Chief Minister's 12-point minimum needs programme, implemented since June, 1996, for the general welfare of the people, is gaining popularity. The 17-point land revenue programme being implemented for simplification of revenue measures for the people of the State, is in full swing. My Government has taken a decision to open one Tahasil in each Block of the State. The wage of daily labourers has been raised from Rs. 25/- to Rs.30/-. The rate of old age pension has been raised from Rs.75/- to Rs.100/- for 3 lakh old age pensioners. Reservation of 27% in posts and services for SEBC (Socially and Educationally Backward Classes) is being implemented for the welfare of the backward classes. Recently, 16 castes have been enlisted in the backward class in Orissa. Under the Freedom from Hunger campaign in 143 tribal and drought prone areas, 3,45,138 Metric Tonnes of rice have been supplied to the people, at Rs.2/- per Kilogram. The Mid-Day Meals programme, implemented from 1st July, 1995, has benefited 41,49,182 students of 40,132 primary schools in the State. The programme has gained popularity and the attendance of the students has increased in the primary schools. The Government is also striving hard to build up mass awareness to eradicate the evil of child labour, being employed in hazardous and life threatening occupations. This task requires the whole hearted participation of the community.

On the occasion of this Republic Day, let us take a pledge to sink all our differences and work with renewed vigour to build a strong and prosperous Orissa so that our State could have a rightful place among the front-ranking States of our Country.

Message of
SHRI JANAKI BALLAV PATNAIK,
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Orissa
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE
ON THE OCCASION OF THE REPUBLIC DAY, 1997



On the occasion of the 48th Republic Day, I extend my hearty greetings to my dear brothers and sisters of Orissa.

Like the Independence Day, the Republic Day is a sacred day for India. On this day our ancestors gave a Constitution to the country to guide the governance of India and declared India as a Democratic Republic. Our Constitution is a great constitution in the whole of the world. This Constitution has succeeded in keeping the unity and integrity of India in tact. Our political freedom, freedom of expression of the people, improvement of their economic condition, establishment of social justice—all these have emanated from our Constitution. After India being declared as a Republic, this Constitution has helped us enormously.

Today, we must analyse as to what progress we have achieved in the past 48 years. We should feel proud that such a vast country like ours, which was subjugated to alien rule for hundreds of years and reeled under poverty, inequality, injustice, could lessen its problems to a great extent. Of course, even today, there are crores of people in the country languishing in poverty, ignorance and many of their wants still remain unfulfilled. However, after independence, under democratic Governments massive changes have been brought about. As a result of this change, we have become self-sufficient in agricultural production and made strides in industrial development. We are now considered as an important military power in the world and we have the strength to protect our country. India has greatly succeeded in establishing peace between two dissenting groups of nations of the world by adopting the policy of non-alignment. When the history of world pertaining to the concluding part of the present century would be written, the invaluable contributions of India in this regard would definitely be acknowledged. When we march to the 21st century, we are likely to be confronted with many problems and we shall be able to solve

many of them which have vexed us for centuries. We will be able to address the magnitude of unemployment crisis. In many villages of our State there is scarcity of potable water, there is lack of communications and there are no facilities of schools and hospitals. There are many who don't have a roof over their head. These are to be solved with utmost priority. There are many destitutes, old, widow, and disabled. We should look into their problems and provide them with pension. Those who are very poor, should get essential commodities at a reasonable cost or subsidised cost. We should make education universal and motivate students to attend schools, through the implementation of mid-day meal programme.

Orissa, like other States is an inseparable limb of India. In our National Anthem, the name of Orissa has been clearly spelt out. We should strengthen Orissa. If Orissa continues to remain a weak limb of the country, then India can never be strong. Therefore, we should strive for all-round development of our State.

Our solemn pledge today is to achieve this objective by fully utilising the abundant natural resources of the State and harnessing immense human resource which, I am confident, would ensure Orissa's rightful place in India.

JAI HIND

Message of

SHRI NETRANANDA MALLICK

Minister of State, Information & Public Relations

on the occasion of the
48th Republic Day, 1997



Brothers and Sisters,

It gives me immense pleasure to extend my heart-felt greetings and good wishes to you all on the historic and sacred occasion of our 48th Republic Day celebration. Our memory goes back to those honourable members of the Constituent Assembly who completed the draft Constitution on November 26, 1949 and the new Constitution came into force on January 26, 1950, proclaiming India as a Democratic Sovereign Republic. By the 42nd Amendment which came into force on 18th December, 1976 the preamble was amended. India is now a Sovereign, Democratic, Secular and Socialist Republic.

The Constitution of India has laid emphasis on 10 fundamental duties. Nation expects much more from us. As law abiding citizens we have to practise the duties with utmost sincerity enshrined in the Constitution. We must cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom. We must uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India and defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so. We have to fight back injustice and inequality prevalent in the society which hinders the path of progress of the Nation.

Ours is a welfare State, so many welfare schemes have been introduced in Orissa and are being implemented for the benefit of the public. Chief Minister's 12 point minimum needs programme which is being implemented since June, 1996 for general welfare of the people has gained its popularity. Besides, a 17-point Land Revenue Programme is being implemented for simplification of revenue measures for the people of the State. Since 15th August 1996, Government have taken decision to open one Tahsil in each block and some new Tahsils have been opened. To give priority to agriculture, a New Agricultural Policy-1996 is being implemented since 1st April 1996 in the State to bring about a revolutionary change in agricultural sector. The Government of Orissa has given Agriculture the status of industry. Encouragement is being provided to unemployed youth to set up agro-based industries in the State.

A massive programme for providing irrigation facilities to 12,00,000 ha of agricultural land has been taken up. The State Government has announced a new bold industrial policy, which came into force from the 1st March, 1996, in order to attract and facilitate large investments in infrastructures and industries both from inside the country and abroad. The New Economic Mission geared up by our Chief Minister Shri J. B. Patnaik in October, 1996 is likely to procure for the State heavy investment in the areas of infrastructure, mining, petrochemicals, food processing, tourism, textiles, electronics, development of roads and ports etc by big business houses in Japan, Republic of Korea, Hongkong, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore. New Sugar Factories at a cost of Rs. 60 crore each to be set up in Koraput, Boudh, Ganjam, Puri and Bhadrak districts. Effective steps have been taken up for the completion of all on-going projects i.e. Upper Indravati, Upper Kolab, Rengali and Ib Thermal power stations. Renovation and modernisation of the old Thermal and hydel units at Talcher, Hirakud and Chipilima are being taken up.

Among other welfare schemes daily labourer's wage has been raised from Rs. 25/- to Rs. 30/-; pension raised from Rs. 75/- to Rs. 100/- for 3 lakh old aged persons. Under freedom from hunger campaign 3,45,138 metric tonnes of rice have been supplied to the families in 143 tribal blocks and drought prone areas at the cost of rupees two per kilo of rice. Mid-day meals arranged for the pupils in primary schools introduced since July 1st, 1995 has increased the attendance of the pupils. 41,49,182 pupils of 40132 primary schools have been benefited.

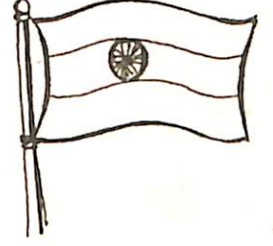
When all-out efforts are being made to harness the resources to make Orissa a prosperous State nature stands on its way to hinder the progress. Our State has witnessed an unprecedented drought situation since September, 1996. Government is making all endeavour to fight back the drought situation on war footing. I appeal to the affluent persons of the State and rich organisations to donate generously to Chief Minister's Relief Fund, to face boldly this natural calamity.

Let us take an oath on this memorable occasion to strive hard collectively to make Orissa a prosperous State in India.

JAI HIND.

□□□ India, a Union of States, is a Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic with a Parliamentary system of Government. The Republic is governed in terms of the Constitution, which was adopted by Constituent Assembly on 26th November, 1949 and came into force on 26th January 1950.□□□

NATIONAL FLAG



National flag is horizontal tricolour of deep saffron (*kesari*) at the top, white in the middle and dark green at the bottom in equal proportion. Ratio of the width of the flag to its length is two to three. In the centre of the white band is a navy blue wheel which represents the *Charkha*. Its design is that of the wheel which appears on the abacus of the Sarnath Lion Capital of Ashoka. Its diameter approximates to the width of the white band and it has 24 spokes.

Design of the national flag was adopted by the Constituent Assembly of India on 22 July 1947. Its use and display are regulated by a code.

STATE EMBLEM :

State emblem is an adaptation from the Sarnath Lion Capital of Ashoka. In the original, there are four lions, standing back to back, mounted on an abacus with a frieze carrying sculptures in high relief of an elephant, a galloping horse, a bull and a lion separated by intervening wheels over a bell-shaped lotus. Carved out of a single block of polished sandstone, the capital is crowned by the Wheel of the Law (Dharma Chakra).

In the state emblem adopted by the Government of India on 26 January 1950 only three lions are visible, the fourth being hidden from view. The wheel appears in relief in the centre of the abacus with a bull on right and a horse on left and the outlines of other wheels on extreme right and left. The bell-shaped lotus has been omitted. The words *Satyameva Jayate* from *Mundaka Upanishad*, meaning 'Truth Alone Triumphs', are inscribed below the abacus in the Devanagari script.

NATIONAL ANTHEM :

The song *Jana-gana-mana*, composed by Rabindranath Tagore, was adopted by the Constituent Assembly as the National Anthem of India on 24 January 1950. It was first sung on 27 December 1911 at the Calcutta session of the Indian National Congress. The complete song consists of five stanzas. First stanza consists full version of the National Anthem. It reads :

जन-गण-मन-अधिनायक जय हे
भारत भाग्य विधाता
पन्जाब सिन्धु गुजराट मराठा
द्राविड उत्कल वङ्ग
विन्ध्य हिमाचल यमुना गङ्गा
उच्छल जलधि तरङ्ग
तव शुभनामे जागे तव शुभ आशिष मागे
गाये तव जय गाथा
जन गण मंगलदायक जय हे
भारत भाग्य विधाता
जय हे जय हे जय हे जय जय जय जय हे !



Playing time of the full version of the National Anthem is approximately 52 seconds. A short version consisting of first and last lines of the stanza (playing time approximately 20 seconds) is also played on certain occasions. The following is Tagore's English rendering of this stanza :

Thou art the ruler of the minds of all people,
dispenser of India's destiny.
Thy name rouses the hearts of Punjab, Sind, Gujarat and Maratha,
Of the Dravida and Orissa and Bengal;
It echoes in the hills of the Vindyas and Himalayas,
mingles in the music of Jamuna and Ganges and is chanted by the
waves of the Indian Sea.
They pray for thy blessings and sing thy praise.
The saving of all people waits in thy hand,
thou dispenser of India's destiny
Victory, victory victory to thee.

SPEECH OF SHRI J. B. PATNAIK, CHIEF MINISTER OF ORISSA AT THE CHIEF MINISTERS' CONFERENCE ON POWER HELD IN NEW DELHI on Dec 3 1996.

At the outset I would like to thank the Prime Minister and the Union Minister of State for Power for formulating the draft Common Minimum National Action Plan for Power in a period of a month and half since last meeting of the Chief Ministers on 16th October. This draft action plan has addressed almost all the major concerns and issues of the Power Sector.

2. While endorsing the Common Minimum National Action Plan on Power, I am happy to say that most of the measures envisaged under the action Plan have already been implemented in Orissa. As a matter of fact, we have invested the Regulatory Commission with wider powers. Not only it is to undertake tariff fixation, it is also to handle licencing, planning and other related functions including arbitration of disputes pertaining to generation, distribution and transmission of power. I would like to emphasize that by giving only the power of tariff fixation to the Electricity Regulatory Commission the intended objective of bringing about reform and restructuring with a view to achieving efficiency in management and better service to the consumers cannot be achieved. If we seriously think of creating an independent body to divest State Government and State Electricity Boards of regulatory functions, transfer of powers of licencing, planning etc. should go in hand in hand with tariff fixation. This alone can ensure effective monitoring of the standard of performance of the Organisations/Companies handling distribution, transmission and generation so as to make them commercially viable and achieve the greatest satisfaction of the consumers.

3. It has rightly been emphasized in the action plan that cross-subsidy cannot be totally done away with though there is need for reducing subsidy and the ceiling of 50% of average cost fixed in this regard appears to be reasonable for the present. If the power sector is to grow keeping pace with the needs of the country the parameters of operation should be such that it can sustain itself. Orissa has already taken the lead in inducting pri-

vate participation in distribution of power. The aim is to make the distribution system totally privatised within a period of 4 years in the State. In view of the constraint of resources, time has come to seriously think about allowing private participation in a big way in transmission also along with generation, for which a beginning has already been made.

4. As I had mentioned in my written speech of 16th October, our aim should be to locate Thermal Stations at pit-heads of coal fields, as it not only saves a lot of transport expenses it is also environment friendly. But the main constraint in this regard is lack of adequate inter-state transmission net-work. I have, therefore, emphasized the need for strengthening the national grid in various fora. The Planning Commission have appreciated the need for immediate action in this regard, and I hope appropriate priority would be accorded to this activity in the 9th Plan. I would suggest that the governmental efforts in this regard should be adequately supplemented by private participation. Many national and international companies have evinced keen interest to set up interstate high voltage lines alongwith Mega Generation Project at coal pit heads. The national energy policy must aim at accommodating such projects with necessary incentives to private developers.

5. It is relevant in this context to mention that while trying to make the power sector run on commercial lies, the State Government cannot shirk its responsibility of providing electricity to rural areas and to the disadvantaged sections of the society. Since this activity is not commercially viable, Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) is now reluctant to provide credit on concessional rate of interest to the restructured bodies like GRIDCO in Orissa. A mechanism has to be worked out for execution of rural electrification programmes with a view to covering all the villages within a specified time frame. Govt. of India has to come to the rescue of the States like Orissa, where more than 30% of the villages are yet to be electrified.

SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE AND ORISSA

Dhruba Charan Das

"Orissa is my birth place and I love Orissa", wrote Suabhas Chandra Bose in a personal letter to Nirmal Kumar Basu. His love for Orissa and its people is well evident in his thought and action. Though he remained outside Orissa from 1913 onwards still he kept his heart in the State. The miseries and the sufferings of the Oriya people drew his attention all along. His love for Oriya language, literature and culture was immense. He established a close rapport with the Oriya luminaries of those days like Pandit Gopabandhu Das, Pandit

brothers and three sisters were born after him. His father was an eminent lawyer at Cuttack. He started his early education at Cuttack Baptist Mission School when he was seven years old. Later on, he joined Ravenshaw Collegiate School, Cuttack from where he passed matriculation examination in 1913 securing second position in the University.

These formative years of Bose at Cuttack had a tremendous impact on him which added moral, mystic, religious, spiritual and social dimension to his life.

Impact of moral values.

The mind of a child is like a tender creeper which requires care, support and direction for its luxuriant growth. The child generally gets guidance from the surroundings in which he lives and the mother is the first teacher. Subhash was fortunate enough to have a pious mother who gave importance on the moral values of life. She tried to impress upon him that in order to achieve something in life one should be honest and should be morally strong. It worked on him like a miracle. In a tender age he expressed his learning in the following words :

"Revered mother, what is the object of education ? If an educated man has no character shall I call him a Pundit ? Never."

Impact of his teacher at Cuttack.

Subhas found the atmosphere at Ravenshaw Collegiate School more conducive. He developed a great respect for the teachers there and they loved him like their child. As a bright student he was appreciated and encouraged by all. His sanskrit teacher Biswanath Rath awarded him 100 marks out of 100 in Sanskrit- a rare distinction granted to a student in that school. He found a proper breed-



Nilakantha Das, Biswanath Dash and others. He also extended his full support for a separate Orissa state. On the occasion of his birth centenary we pay tribute of respect to this great leader.

Subhas Chandra Bose was born on 23rd January 1897 at Cuttack, Orissa. He was the ninth child of Janakinath Bose and Prabhavati Devi. He had five elder brothers¹ and three elder sisters. Two

1. Satish, Sarat, Suresh, Sudhir and Sunil were his elder brothers. Sailesh and Santosh were his younger brothers.

ing ground in the atmosphere of love, care and encouragement and developed a sense of respect and gratitude to the elders. This noble trait which he learnt here helped him to become great in his life.

His contact with Beni Madhab Das, the Headmaster of the School was a turning point in his life. He was a man of character and integrity and was gifted with noble ideas. He influenced Subhash to such an extent that Subhash regarded him his spiritual guru. In his autobiography he wrote :

"He had succeeded in rousing in me a vague perception of moral values, an inchoate feeling that in human life moral values should count more than anything else."

Love for nature : a lesson from his guru.

From Beni Madhab Das he also learnt that Nature is the greatest teacher. It silently speaks everything. The mysteries of nature are difficult to reveal. The natural surroundings of Cuttack attracted him the most. He was particularly attracted by the natural beauties of river and enjoyed its serene beauties. Here he observed a typical natural phenomenon. The small tides strike the bank of the river again and again only to get crushed and go back. This play of rising and subsiding continued till the day when a small chunk of them fell thus teaching that one should never get frustrated in life in the face of odds but keep on trying again and again. Fortune only favours the brave. This lesson provided him great encouragement in life. He never looked back when he decided to do something worthy.

Oriya Sadhus and saints.

His constant conversation with nature stimulated his imaginative faculty and he tried to know the self who guided these phenomena. He desired to learn *yoga* and *sadhana* through which he could know the truth. He contacted the sadhus and saints in the nearby areas who could satisfy his curiosity. He also left home and visited different religious places in India in search of a true guru. But he returned home disheartened but wiser. But his respect for Oriya sadhus continued. In later part of life he wrote a letter to Pandit Gopabandhu Das to provide him some books dealing with the lives of Oriya saint and their method of *sadhana*.

His service for the poor and needy of Orissa.

From his childhood, he developed an attitude to dedicate himself for the service of the poor and needy people. At Cuttack he organised a volunteer group of like-minded boys who collected food and money by begging and distributed them among the poor men in the vicinity. He also volunteered himself to visit the flood and cyclone-stricken population in the nearby village of Cuttack and their sufferings moved him. He visited these areas with food, medical aids which he could gather. He could see the heart-rending scene where the people were dying like flies and the officials were apathetic to their cause. Once he ventured to lead a group of students to the cholera-stricken town of Jajpur, about hundred miles away from Cuttack without informing his parents. They carried with them only some homeopathic medicines. The will and determination of the boys brought courage and self confidence among the patients who considered the group as God-sent. What a self satisfaction by serving the people ? He had to face the wrath of his father and other relatives when he returned from the trip a week later.

He always had a sympathetic tone for the miseries of the people of Orissa during the natural calamities. The flood situation in Orissa in 1925 drew his attention when he was in the Mandalay² jail in Burma. He wrote :

"I was pained to hear about the flood in Orissa. Misfortune never comes alone, it appears. Please let me know the extent of damage done and what relief it was possible to render."

In 1926³, the disaster of Puri district drew his attention from the distant land of Burma. He wrote :

"The report on disaster of Puri district is extremely distressing. I feel that the Bengal Relief Committee ought to make a grant to Orissa on this occasion. As far as I am aware there is a reserve fund at the disposal of the Committee out of which *khadi* work is being carried out. However, I do not think I can do anything myself as long as I am in this state."

His concern for the poor people in Orissa even though he was outside the country deserves a praise for him.

His Love for Oriya language, literature and culture.

Bose always maintained a close contact with the development of Orissa, its culture and literature. He read latest publications on issues relating to Orissa. He also kept a track on it even when he was in the Mandalay Jail in Burma. He wrote to Gopabandhu Das⁴ :

"Have you received Sj. Bijoy Majumdar's Book "Orissa in the Making"? What is your opinion about it ? I have not seen it myself but I have read some review on it "

In a letter to Nirmal Kumar Basu, he requested him to send a copy of his book on Konark. In this letter he showed a profound respect for the *Silpasastra* of Orissa.

Bose also showed deep interest to learn Oriya language which is evident from his correspondences with Gopabandhu Das while he was serving jail sentences in Burma. He enquired the names of worthy Oriya books which would help him to learn the languages. Gopabandhu Das sent him - some elementary books. He was very glad to receive them. He wrote⁵ :

"I am glad to tell you that I have received the books you sent me last year. They are (i) *Tribhasi* (ii) *Varna Bodha* (iii) Oriya Grammar (iv) *Sisubodha* and (5) *Pilanka Ramayana*. I am anxious to know if you send me a second parcel. If I fail to get Oriya books locally, I shall write to you when I finished these and you can entrust some bookseller to send me books by VPP. If these books are sent by VPP there is no chance of being their miscarried or delayed in transmission."

He attributed the poverty in Orissa to two big problems (i) The River problem and (ii) The problem of Cooperative Development. He suggested that :

"Poor as Orissa is from agricultural point of view without industrial development it will be impossible to find work and food for her children. The fact that so many Oriyas emigrate to distant places is sure proof that the soil is not rich enough to support

the entire population. Emigration would lead to laxity of morals because it causes the break-up of the family and involves residence in insanitary and unusual surroundings where social checks are practically a non-existence. His concern for the poor Oriyas in his childhood and the constant sympathy for their cause shows the greatness of Bose. He not only supported a noble cause but did try to be one of them though he was away from them.

Amalgamation of Oriya-speaking areas :

He was a staunch supporter of the separate Oriya speaking state which is quite evident from his personal correspondences with Oriya leaders who fought for the cause. In 1925 he wrote to Pandit Gopabandhu Das :

"I have been following the developments of Oriya amalgamation scheme and I only hope that before Lord Reading departs he will make some announcement favourable to Oriya popular opinion."

Further he added :

"Sylhet had been transferred to Bengal. I do not see any reason why Ganjam should not be restored to Orissa. The amalgamation is bound to take place sooner or later. The Madras Government by their opposition are only putting off that event ."

Forward Block in Orissa.

Bose was elected as Congress President in 1938 and got an overwhelming support of the Oriya members. In 1939, he resigned from it and formed the Forward Block.

Bose came to Cuttack on 5th August 1939. Pandit Nilakantha Das was the Congress President of Orissa Congress at that time, He took Bose on an elephant and made a round throughout Cuttack, Puri and Sakhigopal under the arrangement of Nilakantha Das.

In these meetings he delivered the message pertaining to the necessity of formation of an all India Army composed of non-volunteers. He also explained that the Forward Block would be an organisation of the progressive elements of the Congress with the aim of conducting a statewide fight for freedom. He enlisted members for the Forward Block. Prominent Oriya leaders who joined him were Pandit Nilakantha Das, Pandit Godabarish Mishra, Bibhudendra Mishra,

2. Letter to Gopabandhu Das dated, 24-12-25

3. Letter to Gopabandhu Das Dated 7-4-26

4. Letter dated 26-7-26 from Mandalay Jail Burma

5. Ibid.

ing ground in the atmosphere of love, care and encouragement and developed a sense of respect and gratitude to the elders. This noble trait which he learnt here helped him to become great in his life.

His contact with Beni Madhab Das, the Headmaster of the School was a turning point in his life. He was a man of character and integrity and was gifted with noble ideas. He influenced Subhash to such an extent that Subhash regarded him his spiritual guru. In his autobiography he wrote :

"He had succeeded in rousing in me a vague perception of moral values, an inchoate feeling that in human life moral values should count more than anything else."

Love for nature : a lesson from his guru.

From Beni Madhab Das he also learnt that Nature is the greatest teacher. It silently speaks everything. The mysteries of nature are difficult to reveal. The natural surroundings of Cuttack attracted him the most. He was particularly attracted by the natural beauties of river and enjoyed its serene beauties. Here he observed a typical natural phenomenon. The small tides strike the bank of the river again and again only to get crushed and go back. This play of rising and subsiding continued till the day when a small chunk of them fell thus teaching that one should never get frustrated in life in the face of odds but keep on trying again and again. Fortune only favours the brave. This lesson provided him great encouragement in life. He never looked back when he decided to do something worthy.

Oriya Sadhus and saints.

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Surajmal Saha, Sriharsa Mishra and Ashok Das, son of Pandit Nilakantha Das.

The Forward Block in Orissa renewed its activities in August 1941 by forming a National Brigade in Orissa to fight against internal chaos and external aggression. It issued a leaflet entitled "War and Independence" which incited people to disarm policemen and other officials who carried weapons without a license. Another pamphlet appealed to the police, jail official and other Government servants to dislodge British Government and not to take action against political agitators. It became active when Subhash Chandra controlled the rein of INA in South East Asia. Some trusted followers of Bose worked for INA and posted some men near the Puri and Balasore coast to help the INA men land in these areas from sea and sent messages of importance to INA Headquarters via Calcutta.

Guiding spirit for Oriya in INA

He was a guiding spirit for the Oriyas in INA. A large number of Oriyas responded to his clarion call and voluntarily joined INA. Prominent INA men like Col. B. M. Patnaik, Krishna Chandra Tripathy and others served by his side and enlisted number of Oriyas for the noble cause. Three Oriya girls⁶ also

came forward to join the Rani Jhansi, Regiments of INA.

Subhas Chandra Bose spent 16 years in Orissa and during this period a strong foundation was laid for him. By the time he left Orissa he was an experienced man. He had by then become an ardent lover of nature. 'Service to mankind is service to God' had become his motto. He had experienced the truth and was capable enough to form an opinion of his own. To sum up his early achievements at Cuttack in his own words :

"When I left school I had by then made certain decisions for myself. I was not going to follow the beaten track, come what may. I was going to lead a life of spiritual welfare and upliftment of humanity. I was going to make a profound study of philosophy so that I could solve the fundamental problems of life. I was not going on for a worldly career. This was the outlook with which I faced the new chapter in my life. ...Standing on the threshold of my college career I felt convinced that life had a meaning and purpose."⁷

It is certain that the ideas he formed at Cuttack were given a proper shape in his later life. He was a worthy son of the soil and he never forgot Orissa and the people of Orissa though he achieved greatness in life.

6. Rajani, Kanti and Urmila joined the Rani Jhansi Regiment of INA.

7. An Indian Pilgrim P 49

New Delhi

Messages on the occasion of Armed Forces Flag Day

Hon'ble Governor Sri Gopal Ramanujam :

"On the occasion of Armed Forces Flag Day on 7th of December 1996 I extend my warm greetings and best wishes to all ranks of the Armed Forces and their families and express our solidarity with our brave Armed Forces.

"On this day we remember those members of Armed Forces who have laid down their lives for country's sake. The whole nation is indebted to them. We have a great responsibility towards their children and family.

"Today I appeal to the people of our State to contribute generously to the Flag Day Fund for the welfare of the defence personnel and their families."

Chief Minister Sri Janaki Ballav Patnaik :

"I am happy to know that the Armed Forces Flag Day is being celebrated throughout the country as usual, on 7th December, 1996.

"The Armed Forces Flag Day is intended to honour the brave armed forces who defend our country by their indomitable courage and spirit of sacrifice and have earned for themselves great laurels and honour of the nation. The entire nation expresses its solidarity with the armed forces on this day every year by generously donating to the Flag Day Fund and displaying Armed Forces Flag."

"I convey my warm greetings and best wishes to all ranks of our Armed Forces on this occasion and appeal to the people of our State to donate generously to the Flag Day Fund for the cause of rehabilitation and welfare of the families of Ex-servicemen as well as serving Defence personnel.

AZAD HIND FAUJ AND PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF AZAD HIND : SAGA OF NETAJI

Prof. Jagannath Mohanty

"I have said that today is the proudest day of my life. For an enslaved people, there can be no greater pride, no higher honour, than to be the first soldier in the army of liberation. But this honour carries with it a corresponding responsibility and I am deeply conscious of it. I assure you that I shall be with you in darkness and in sunshine, in sorrows and in joy, in suffering and in victory. For the present, I can offer you nothing except hunger,



thirst, privation, forced marches and deaths. But if you follow me in life and in death-as I am confident you will - I shall lead you to victory and freedom. It does not matter who among us will live to see India free. It is enough that India shall be free and that we shall give our all to make her free. May God now bless our army and grant us victory in the coming fight. Inquilab Zindabad ! Azad Hind Zindabad !"(1)

This was the concluding remark of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on the 5th July, 1943 at

Singapore after taking over the charge of President of Indian Independence League from Rash Behari Bose on July 4, the previous day. The speech he delivered that day was in fact one of his greatest speeches which overwhelmed the entire contingents of Indian National Army (INA) gathered there under the scorching tropical sun of Singapore. There was a rally of 13,000 men drawn from the people of South East Asian countries. Then Netaji toured in Thailand, Malay, Burma, Indo-China and some other countries and inspired the civilians to join the army and mobilised public opinion for recruitment of soldiers, augmenting resources and establishing new batches of INA. He promised the people that he would open the second war of Independence and set up a Provisional Government of Free India under whose banner three million Indians of South East Asia would fight the enemy. He made a clarion call to all Indians -*Karo sab nichhabar bano sab fakir*- sacrifice all and be penniless mendicants for the sake of the motherland.

Under blazing sun and heavy rains Netajee used to deliver his fiery speeches and to appeal the masses to make donations, join the INA and to give arms whatever they had. After the speech, his garlands were put to auction, each garland, fetching such a fabulous amount as ten or twenty thousand dollars at that time and this money was earmarked as the fund of the Provisional Government. People also vied with one another to hand over donations to Netajee personally. (2)

Netaji favourably influenced the Governments of Germany and Japan and enlisted their support for the fight for freedom of India. During World War II Burma was captured by Japan and British armies were defeated and INA marched upto Imphal of Manipur through dense forests and hills, incessant rains and inclement weather. The

patriotic slogan "Delhi Chalo" (March to Delhi) reverberated the vast areas once occupied by the British.

The tide of the Second World War turned against Japan and Allies tried to recover Burma. Tokyo felt the need to appease the Burmese people in order that they might help in the country's defence against the Allied invasion. On August 1, 1943 power was transferred to Burmese hands and Independence though doubted to be shortlived was celebrated in Burma. As the Guest of Honour of the ceremony, Netajee praised Japan profusely and eulogised Burmese and Indian people living there. He said, "The Independence of Burma in this momentous crisis has a two-fold significance for us. It shows in the first place, what a nation can achieve if it knows how to seize an opportunity which history has offered. Secondly, just as the conquest of India supplied the British with jumping off the ground for their attack on Burma in the nineteenth century, similarly, the emancipation of Burma has supplied the Indian Independence Movement in East Asia with a spring-board for its attack on Britain's Army of occupation in India during the twentieth Century.."(3)

Dr. Ba Maw became the head of Independent Burma and declared war against Britain and the USA. Netajee required his help in providing bases of military operation against the occupying force in India and getting seat for his Provisional Government of Free India then under contemplation in Rangoon so as to be close to his military target. But Japanese historians have written that Dr. Ba Maw was unwilling to oblige him on two grounds :

(i) there was a feeling of animosity among the Burmese towards the Indians because the latter were occupying a predominant position in Burma everywhere and

(ii) the Azad Hind Movement which was being backed by affluent Indians in South-East Asia might influence the economy of Burma greatly. But Ba Maw mentioned in his memoirs, inter alia, "I openly welcomed him (Netaji); and so on January 6, 1944 and the days following, Netaji Bose and his army arrived in Burma and remained there till the final defeat of the Japanese in 1945".(4)

It was, however, the fact that Netaji, after months of negotiations with Japanese support could get the concessions with the assurance that the Provisional Government or its army would never interfere in the internal affairs of Burma. He then moved to Bangkok on August 4 to meet the Thais Prime Minister and succeeded to secure his consent to the passing of the INA troops to Burma through Thailand. Then he ran to Saigon for meeting the Japanese army officers for discussing some strategic military issues. Netaji then returned to Singapore on August 14 and spoke at giant rally of Indians about the "Quit India" movement and renamed INA as Azad Hind Fauj or the Army of Free India. The number of soldiers rose to 30,000 and arranged to recruit 20,000 more with Japanese support, particularly from among the British Army who were taken as prisoners of war by the Japanese. Netaji also raised a women's regiment as a part of the Azad Hind Fauj who will wield the sword as the brave Rani of Jhansi wielded in India's First War of Independence in 1857.

Netaji declared the formation of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind and the names of the Cabinet members who signed the Proclamation. Bose was the Head of the State, Prime Minister and Minister for War, Foreign Affairs and Supreme Commander of the INA. Others were Capt. Miss Lakshmi, Women's Organisation, S.A. Ayer, Publicity and Propaganda, Lt. Col. A.C. Chatterjee, Finance, Lt. Col. Aziz Ahmed, Lt. Col. NS Bhagat, Lt. Col. Shah Nawaz and so on. The Proclamation of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind 1943 provided fillip to the Freedom struggle and it claimed the allegiance of every Indian irrespective of caste or creed and all were to be treated as equals with equal rights in all respects. It ended with a stirring appeal:

"In the name of God, in the name of bygone generations who have welded the Indian people into one nation and in the name of the dead heroes who have bequeathed to us a tradition of heroism and self sacrifice we call upon the Indian people to rally round our banner and strike for India's Freedom. We call upon them to launch the final struggle against the British and all their allies in India and to prosecute that struggle with valour and

perseverance and with full faith in Final Victory until the enemy is expelled from Indian soil and the Indian people are once again a Free Nation". (5)

Then the ceremony of taking the Oath of Allegiance took place in an emotionally charged atmosphere. Amidst cheers, Netaji read out the oath, "In the name of God I take this sacred Oath that to liberate India and 38 crores of my countrymen, I Subhas Chandra Bose, will continue the sacred war of freedom till the last breath of my life..." His voice failed and he wiped his eyes with his handkerchief. He tried to overcome his emotions and with difficulty resumed in a steady voice "I shall always remain a servant of India and look after the welfare of 38 crores of Indian brothers and sisters. This shall be for me my highest duty. Even after winning freedom I will always be prepared to shed the last drop of my blood for the preservation

of India's freedom". (6) Then other members of the Provisional Government took holy oath to liberate India and to remain absolutely faithful to their leader Netaji. Actually, these martyrs remained committed to this oath till the end of their life and their immortal life will remain an eternal source of inspiration and enlightenment to all.

2935, Gouri Nagar, Bhubaneswar

Reference :

1. Saito and Hayashida in *A Beacon Across Asia*, NRB pp. 177-80
2. Pandit HN, *Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose*, p. 186
3. Maw Ba, *Break Through in Burma*, p. 312
4. Ibid p. 352
5. Pandit HN, *Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose*, Sterling Publishers, New Delhi, 1988 p. 331
6. Ibid pp. 203-204

Tirupati Rashtriya Sanskrit University confers *Honoris causa* of Vachaspati 'D' Litt' on Chief Minister, Shri J. B. Patnaik

Tirupati Rashtriya Sanskrit University conferred *Honoris Causa* of Vachaspati 'D' Litt, on Chief Minister, Shri J. B. Patnaik for his contribution to the cause of Sanskrit learning at its Second Convocation held in the University premises.

Addressing the convocation of the Tirupati Rashtriya Sanskrit University as the Guest of Honour, the Chief Minister said that Sanskrit is the premier binding factor of the various regions of India and has been singularly responsible for preserving our cultural unity through ages. In this age of science when spirituality is on the decline, revival of Sanskrit learning is essential. He emphasized that every student should compulsorily learn Sanskrit at the secondary level.

Sri Patnaik further said that in the ancient times India was one of the important centres of learning of arts and science and hence, seekers of Knowledge from different parts of the world came to this country. A philosopher like Nagarjuna from east who belonged to Andhra Pradesh said that he would eradicate poverty through application of scientific knowledge. India after independence has made remarkable progress. It took the West hundreds of years for completion of renaissance and introduction of full-fledged democracy. India did it within a short period but it is poverty that hurts Indian masses of today. On the fiftieth year of independence of India it is a challenge to all of us to remove hunger, squalor and ignorance which has swept this great country down and has prevented it from playing its proper role in the world. It is a shame that India is still struggling while even small countries of Asia have attained economic prosperity.

The Chief Minister praised the efforts of the Tirupati Rashtriya Sanskrit University for spreading Sanskrit in the State of Andhra Pradesh and outside.

Shri Patnaik also inaugurated the Computer Centre of the University.

Prof. Ramaranjan Mukherjee, the Chancellor of the University presided over the convocation function and Prof. H. B. Raghunathacharya, Vice-Chancellor of the University gave the address of welcome. Mr. Justice Ranganath Mishra, former Chief Justice of India, delivered the convocation address.

ORISSA'S APPROACH TO THE 9TH PLAN

Ajit Kumar Tripathy

The economic growth and balanced development of a country like India cannot be left to market mechanism alone. Planning is necessary in a welfare state overcome many serious limitations of market mechanism. The eight Five Year Plans we have had succeeded in initiating a process of development aimed at raising the standard of living of the people in general and opening out to them new opportunities for a richer and more varied life.

When the backdrop for the 9th Plan in Orissa is examined it is found that India has now come to a cross road. A number of fundamental changes has been brought out in the field of overall economic development.

Liberalisation of the economy has been attempted which has the following features :

(a) Opening up of the economy and its effective intergration with the world market; by liberalisation of import and export regulations;

(b) Decision on gradual transfer of number of functions from the Government to private sector;

(c) Disinvestment of Government share and interests in selected public sector.

Another important development is the passing of the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments, making democratic decentralisation and process of planning mandatory starting from the grass root levels of Panchayats, Panchayat Samiti, Zilla Parishad and the Urban Local Bodies.

In Orissa we have a new State Agriculture Policy which has the objectives of (i) doubling the production of food grains and oil-seeds, (ii) conversion of present sustenance level of agriculture to a profitable commercial venture by attracting capital to this sector, (iii) making agriculture the main route for poverty alleviation and (iv) inducting both skilled labourers, and modern entrepreneurs to the field of agriculture. The implementa-

tion of this policy could bring about a sea change in the rural economy.

The new Industrial Policy of Orissa has the objectives of (i) accelerated industrial growth consistent with protection of environment, (ii) advancement of agro and food processing industries, (iii) attracting large investments in infrastructure, (iv) generation of employment development and (vi) promoting development of skill and expertise alongwith strengthening of local entrepreneurs' talents.

Thus, any exercise at formulation of the 9th plan has to be considered in the light of the backdrop of economic reforms and structural adjustments which has to be carried forward without sacrificing the imperatives of development with social justice.

The real challenge, therefore, during the 9th Plan period is not merely acceleration of poverty alleviation programmes and reduction of inequalities, but also achievement of a reasonably high pace of economic growth with adequate resource generation for sustainable development through people's participation, involvement and empowerment.

Some of the major areas of weakness of Orissa's economy can be described as follows. We have a low end poverty. There is a pre-ponderance of small and marginal farmers and landless agricultural labourers and a high percentage of S.C. and S. T. population. There is a high degree of unemployment and under-employment. Banking infrastructure is poor. Connectivity is poor and communication network is inadequate and backward. Literacy rate in general is low and literacy rate of women is one of the lowest. Vast extent of land is unirrigated and we have one of the lowest levels of application of fertiliser. Rural marketing infrastructure is highly disorganised.

Some of the areas of strength of Orissa's economy are as follows. We have a long coastline

with a rich biosphere. We have extensive inland water patches in lakes and reservoirs. We have a rich store of valuable minerals, like limestone, chromite, iron-ore, coal, bauxite, manganese, zinc, nickel etc. We still have vast areas under forest and a rich potential for regeneration. There is a rich ground water potential which is lying unexploited to an extent close to ninety percent. We have a higher average of rainfall in the State compared to most parts of Deccan plateau. There is a rich tradition of handicrafts, handlooms and cottage industries. There is good market in the neighbourhood that of Calcutta. New urban markets have developed in Bhubaneswar, Angul and Rourkela. There is abundance of natural fibres like coir and jute. Soil is highly suitable for cotton cultivation in Rayagada and Kalahandi districts. Another area of strength recently discovered is that Orissa is agro-climatically suitable for cultivation of oil palm, sisal, bamboo, tea, coffee, rubber, black pepper, mulberry etc. There is a major port at Paradip and a minor port at Gopalpur and good number of modern fishing harbours.

The opportunities which arise from these points of strength are the possibilities of extensive-brackish water prawn culture and pisciculture in the coastal area and sweet water pisciculture in reservoirs, tanks etc. Kenduleaf and other valuable minor forest produce can be converted and processed for profitable marketing. There is a tremendous scope for mineral based industries and power intensive industries. There should be optimum exploitation of ground water and conservation of surface water for increasing agricultural productivity diversification of cropping pattern and for meeting the needs of drinking water.

Opportunities should be created for capturing a substantial portion of the Indian market for handicrafts, handlooms and sericulture. There are almost unlimited opportunities for taking up intensive commercial crops-oil palm, coconut, sugarcane, jute, rubber, sisal, bamboo, mulberry, cashew etc.

The first threat in the context of Orissa comes from the New Economic Policy which has liberalised industrial licensing as private investment henceforth would not be controlled by any policy of removing regional imbalances, but would go to such places where infrastructure is the most developed. This would be putting States like Orissa in a very

unenviable position because in road, air and railway communication Orissa remains under-developed.

Another area of threat is that of the three natural calamities of flood, cyclone and drought. As a matter of fact a damaging drought is clearly foreseen in the year 1996-97 which would leave a crippling effect in the first year of the 9th plan period.

Goal setting for 9th Five Year Plan should, therefore, take into account the points of strength, weakness opportunities and the threats which concern Orissa.

Orissa has to follow the national priorities in implementing the programmes of provision of seven Minimum Needs to the people, namely; (i) Safe Drinking Water in every habitation, (ii) provision of efficient primary health care, (iii) provision of public housing assistance to shelterless poor persons, (iv) connecting villages/ habitations with link roads to the nearest market from the main road, (v) Nutritional support to the children belonging to poor families during pre-school and elementary education stages, (vi) strengthening the public distribution system with focus on poor, (vii) providing universal and compulsory primary education alongwith the measures to spread literacy.

The Ninth Plan strategy in Orissa should consist of converting the weaknesses to points of strength. Poverty is one of the weaknesses of Orissa but we can utilise it as a point of strength in the process of value addition to our own raw materials with lower wages than in the developed regions provided there is upgradation of the skill and application of appropriate rural technology. With cheap energy and abundant water we could specialise in intermediate processing.

The State has a large number of marginal farmers and agricultural labourers which is a weakness; but it could be converted to increased eligibility in order to attract more loans and subsidy. The net assistance in antipoverty programmes could increase to that extent. Therefore, in Orissa sky could be the limit for TRYSEM training. DWCRA scheme and various other poverty alleviation programmes like Indira Awas Yojana, Jawahar Rojgar Yojana, Million Wells.

We have a large number of educated unemployed youth and this could be a point of strength in covering them under PMRY, TRYSEM etc. The age of computers has come and the facilities for training in computer education are now available in all major cities and towns of Orissa. Bhubaneswar is one of the four cities with a Super computer of NIC. Though it has been declared as a software city, yet there has been very little utilisation of the vast potential in this regard. Orissa could be the best exporter of talents so far as computer application is concerned.

Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population which is concerned to be a point of weakness could be converted to a point of strength by preparing suitable bankable schemes for specialising in functions which are traditional to these families using local raw materials. There is no reason why Orissa could not claim a larger portion of special central assistance for tribal development as well as assistance from special component plans for Harijans. What is required is proper administrative restructuring and adequate delegation of responsibilities in the tribal areas. Similarly with proper specialised coaching and educational training to these SC and ST youths, Orissa can claim a much large chunk of the reserved posts in the government and public sector in our country.

Poor connectivity is one of the major weaknesses in the building of infrastructure in Orissa but this would be converted to a point of strength because of the vast gap to be covered in road construction work which would be highly labour intensive and provide work to large number of labourers in the very areas where they are poorly paid and poorly fed. *Road construction* should be one amongst the high priority items in the 9th Plan.

Our literacy rate is low which is one of our weaknesses but it could be converted to a point of strength. There is no reluctance for manual work among the illiterates in the rural areas. We could teach them functional literacy so that education does not reduce the number of hard working labour force. We have to make every one literate and universalise primary education, but with suitable strategy to make manual work more rewarding than desk jobs.

We have a large number of M.I. tanks throughout the State inherited from the Maharajas, Rajas

and Zamindars all of which should be renovated and in the process would create a lot of mandays to the labourers besides creating durable community irrigation assets which will lead to a sustainable increase in productivity in agriculture and in composite pisciculture. Irrigation has the highest multiplier effect per unit of investment and it is the surest and most sustainable means of poverty alleviation. This item is the best permanent drought proofing measure for the State.

Poor fertiliser application is another weakness in the State; but it could be converted into an asset as well. In many areas where the productivity of paddy is very low due to poor quality of soil, absence of improved seeds, resources can be better utilised by encouraging more farmers to take up crops of low water in-take and high benefits like pulses and oil seeds or take up horticultural plantation which does not get affected by drought.

The marginal nature of soil in most of western and northern Orissa is considered to be a factor of weaknesses for the State, but its suitability for plantation crops like bamboo, sisal, coffee, tea, rubber and cashew and citrus fruits is tremendous. Thus converting the point of weakness into strength should be the right approach for the 9th Plan.

What is most important for Orissa is development of a positive work culture in the State. We have to build up a system of trust based on optimism. **Poverty of mind, poverty of imagination and poverty of aspirations should be eradicated first before economic poverty is attempted to be eradicated.** Let the 9th plan be a confidence building exercise for the whole State and for this, there should be a strong component of information, education and communication in each programme and project with funds for organising the beneficiaries and participants. Politician and bureaucracy driven development process has resulted in what we are seeing around us. If we want to turn the corner then development has to be made people-oriented, people-pushed, and people-driven. Unless this is done, 9th plan again would be the ninth enlarged edition of the first five year plan.

Special Secretary
Planning & Co-ordination
Govt. of Orissa, Bhubaneswar

THE ETHICS OF JOURNALISM— The Profile of a Journalist

S.C. Bindhani

The art of communication of information with total transparency and accuracy for the consumption of the general public as well as the authorities and agencies concerned is known as the profession of journalism. Such communication of information is now spreading through different media for mass consumption. These media are Newspapers, Radio and Television. The persons who write for these media are called journalists. This profession is considered very dynamic and it moves with the time. Now a days almost all the Newspapers cover the same national, international, regional and local news reports, yet the presentation differs according to the policy adopted by them to serve the interest of the readers, as well as the publishing houses.

For a journalist, however, the most important aspect of his profession is to adopt the right perception in understanding of any issue or problem keeping in view the interest of the masses, the cause of the nation and the integrity of the country as well as to educate the readers with facts. While doing so, a journalist must provide a complete story in which all the possible questions of a reader about it needs to be answered. This concept may be accepted broadly and basically as the ethics of journalism.

It has become a very prestigious profession all over the world. Now a days this profession is getting specialised subject-wise. Therefore, the publication of different magazines, periodicals and newspapers has been possible. Journalists working in reputed Newspapers and Journals earn high salaries and enjoy several facilities and benefits because of their specialisation on various subjects. A successful journalist maintains a quite

high standard of living or in other words a qualitative living. He moves among the elite sections of the society, yet he maintains the contact with a cross section of the people which helps him to go for investigative reporting. He must have to inculcate the right feeling of nationalism which should be kept in the uppermost of his mind. His efforts through the profession can help in shaping the future of a country and perhaps the entire world.

Some basic concept necessary for a good journalist is to know about the Constitution, functions of the Parliament, the Judiciary, the Executive and the media itself.

Bureaucracy for example being the executive, is supposed to play its objectivity while serving a politically elected Government. They are meant to give their views with a clear objective for the cause of the common men in the greater interest of the society as a whole. Thus, they help the political leaders to take proper decision accordingly. But when they get aligned, they lose their objectivity and no longer they are just. They are also the custodian of the Constitution, and as such, they are to serve the society without any ill-will or fear or favour to any person or persons.

If they become corrupt, the art of which is perhaps not unknown to them, the entire administrative system collapses. The journalists are required to work as the watch-dogs of the entire scenario and should bring to light such things to educate the masses.

Meanwhile we know that democracy touches the active life of only a small number of our citizens. It is a participatory democracy when the voter goes to the polls. For the rest period, it is the

private activity of the persons with State power. They can make or mar the future of the nation. At this stage journalists must watch their activities and offer suggestions to improve upon their performance in order to ensure a qualitative life for all. In every case, the performers should be made accountable to the people in general, through their pen. Thus depending on the prevailing condition of the society the Parliament deliberate on different issues and problems and finally enacts laws and formulate policies.

The Judiciary comes to the rescue of the people by interpreting the laws framed by the Legislature in the event of any violation of such laws when brought to its knowledge.

The duty of the journalists therefore becomes very important, since through their writings only, the mass media brings out all such information for the knowledge of the citizens. Another duty of the journalists is to expose the double standard mainly of the political leaders keeping themselves free from any self interest. Thus the career of a journalist is full of adventures, challenges and even prestigious rewards.

A hard-working journalist adopting the ethics of the profession will always face challenges from various organised quarters as well as persons in power even to risk his life while unearthing the truth in the public interest.

Many talented men and women are joining this profession currently with the ambition to earn high reputation and honour, obviously with a sense of sacrifice. They learn first the fundamental principles and techniques of journalism and try to express their imaginations and thoughts in very simple language and lucid style. The most important guideline for a good journalist is to stretch his imagination in order to cover different angles connected with the queries on any subject, issue or problem. Anyone who possesses some working ability in writing in any language may try to master this subject by enriching his knowledge in different subjects and by greater exposure in the politi-

cal, economic, social and such other fields, to serve the mass media.

The scope to take up this profession is gradually spreading to almost every nook and corner of our country. But the economic support to the profession does not seem to be improving so as to make a journalist dependent on it for his decent living. That is how the allegation of "Blackmail" by some journalists in certain cases remains unexplained openly. On the other hand, adequate financial support to the journalists by the publishing houses has not been possible by a large number of publishers for the reasons best known to them. Hence a debate on the issue may help improve the situation.

On the other hand, a good number of small and very small newspapers and periodicals, have also surfaced in urban areas. With a zeal to fight against corruption as well as many other ills of the society, the local youth even with inadequate education, come forward to serve such newspapers and periodicals, even without any remuneration. Small newspapers in many cases allow these youth to submit their incidental and investigative reports for them either without payment or with little payment. They are in many cases asked to collect advertisements for them on commission basis, which obviously becomes their earning from these newspapers. If they fail to earn some money in this process they try to indulge in fabricating false and concocted stories to vilify personalities and institutions to achieve their selfish end. This practice is otherwise known to be "Yellow journalism". Therefore the scope for yellow journalism takes birth in this manner. Hence, such a situation needs introspection by the agencies, and persons concerned in order to uphold the dignity of the profession.

Correspondent, The Statesman,
Uditnagar, Rourakela

STILL MORE STEEL FROM ORISSA

PROJECT GOPALPUR : FIVE YEARS HENCE

A sleepy, coastal village in the southern part of Orissa was catapulted from anonymity into overnight stardom after Tata Steel, the oldest and the premier private sector steel giant of the country, announced its decision of setting up a 10-million tonne integrated steel complex (the biggest in India) at Gopalpur. The decision raised a storm of protest. Extracting maximum mileage out of it, some political parties, local bigwigs, urging on simple village folks, were up to arms against what they perceived as a threat to the livelihood of hundreds. In the ensuing heat of agitated emotions what was conveniently overlooked was the large-scale benefits that would accrue from a mammoth steel plant like the one proposed. Displacement was a small price to pay in comparison to the shower of economic prosperity and international prominence that was sure to follow.

As far as industrial advancement and progress was concerned, Orissa did not have very many flattering adjectives coming its way. Blessed abundantly by Nature, it requires the union of man and technology to fruitfully harness the gifts from God.

The economy of Gopalpur till today is primarily agrarian in nature. Since the Project-affected villages fall under the Rushikulya river basin, agriculture continues to form the backbone of the villagers, sustenance. Landholdings are pitifully small, with many families owning even less than an acre each. Among the families dependent on agriculture, 56% are land owners, the rest are landless agricultural labourers. Paddy continues to be the major Kharif crop and since irrigation facilities are down to a minimum, only one major crop can be harvested in a year during the monsoons. The methods of farming are woefully primitive and modern agricultural implements are unheard of.

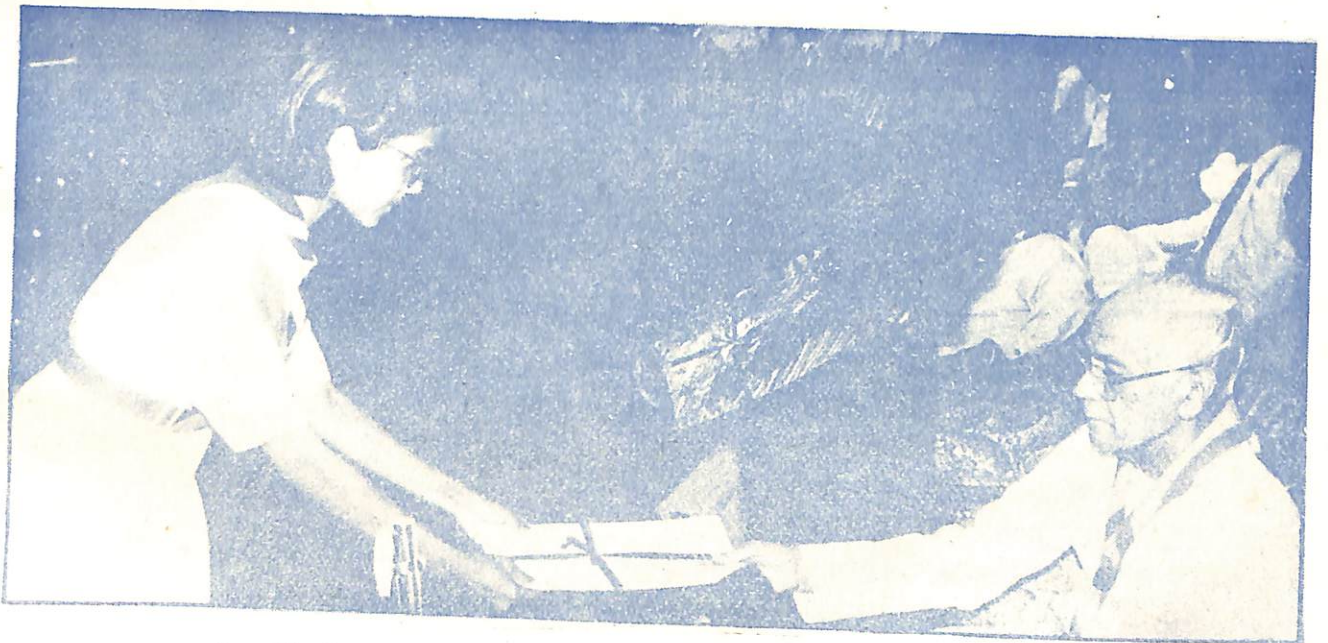
Trade, industry and other agro-based industries yield virtually little or no employment. Ironically enough, though all the villages are on the coastline, fishing as an occupation is non-existent. Women pitch in to supplement the family income by working as marginal workers.

Kewra, a strongly aromatic shrub plant whose flowers are used for the extraction of perfume, is what Gopalpur has become famous for. Most of it is grown on encroached public land and along the boundaries of agricultural fields. In the last decade kewra has emerged as one of the important sources of income for the villagers. Its flowers bloom mainly between June and December. They are then collected by the villagers and sold to the local distillers for extracting crude perfume which is further processed into a variety of value-added products in Uttar Pradesh. In a twist of fate, the benefits of the blossoming kewra industry have not trickled down to the people who are actually the backbone of the industry. Income from this industry is only seasonal and does not guarantee sustained employment. However, in five years, the scenario promises to be a totally different one when Tata Steel would have successfully completed the first phase of its eco-friendly 2.5 million tonnes integrated steel plant. Tunnelling into the future, it has been prophesied that a number of large industries will spring up to feed critical supplies to the mother plant.

A large tonnage oxygen plant, a state-of-the-art all-weather port with the latest in material handling facilities, a co-generation power plant, a cement plant, a coke-making facility are only some of the more ambitious projects waiting in the wings. Supporting the steel plant will be several ancillaries, a steel service centre and a smooth transportation network. Opportunities limitless.



Hon'ble Governor of Orissa Shri G. Ramanujam releases the book 'Adhunik Odishar Varaputra' authored by Shri R. M. Senapati at Raj Bhavan, Bhubaneswar on 7-12-96.



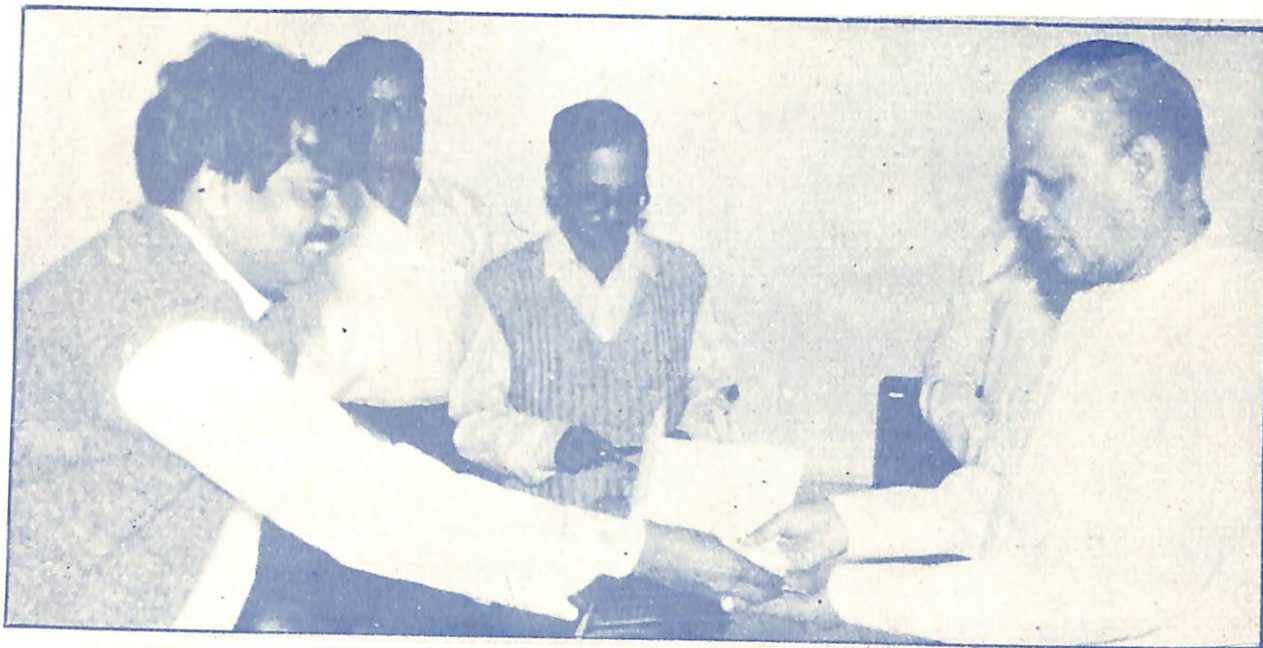
Hon'ble Governor of Orissa Shri G. Ramanujam gives away Awards to Scout masters and Guide Captains at the Rajya Puraskar Rally of the Bharat Scouts and Guides at Raj Bhawan, Bhubaneswar on 6-12-96.



Chief Editor, Orissa Gazetteers Shri Nrusingha Charan Beuria presenting the Gazetteer on undivided Cuttack district to Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik on 10-12-96 at his Secretariat Chamber.



Shri S. N. Phukan, Hon'ble Chief Justice of Orissa High Court is releasing a souvenir on 15-12-96 at Rabindra Mandap, Bhubaneswar during the celebration of the annual function of 'Cerebrum'.



Minister of State, Co-operation Shri Rabindra Kumar Sethi is presenting a cheque for rupees one lakh on behalf of the State Co-operative Bank to Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik for the Chief Minister's Relief Fund on 27-12-96.



Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik inaugurating the XIII group meeting on All India Coordinated Research Project on Floriculture at Regional Plant Resource Centre, Bhubaneswar on 26-12-96.



His Excellency Mr. S. M. Scaddan, Deputy High Commissioner of Britain in Calcutta calling on Hon'ble Governor of Orissa Shri G. Ramanujam at Raj Bhavan, Bhubaneswar on 16-12-96.



The picture shows Shri Satkadi Hota (Chief Guest), Prof. Jagannath Patnaik (Chief Speaker), Shri S. K. Mishra, Director, I. & P.R. and Shri P. K. Behera, Additional Director, I. & P.R. during the State Level Celebration of Shrirama Chandra Bhanja Deo Jayanti at Soochana Bhavan on 17-12-96.



Players of Swaraj Cup Football Tournament (Final) introducing themselves to Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik on 20-12-96 at the Unit-VI playground, Bhubaneswar.



Chief Secretary Shri Rajkishore Bhujabal inaugurating the Pulse Polio Programme at the Polio Prevention Centre, Bhubaneswar on 7-12-96.



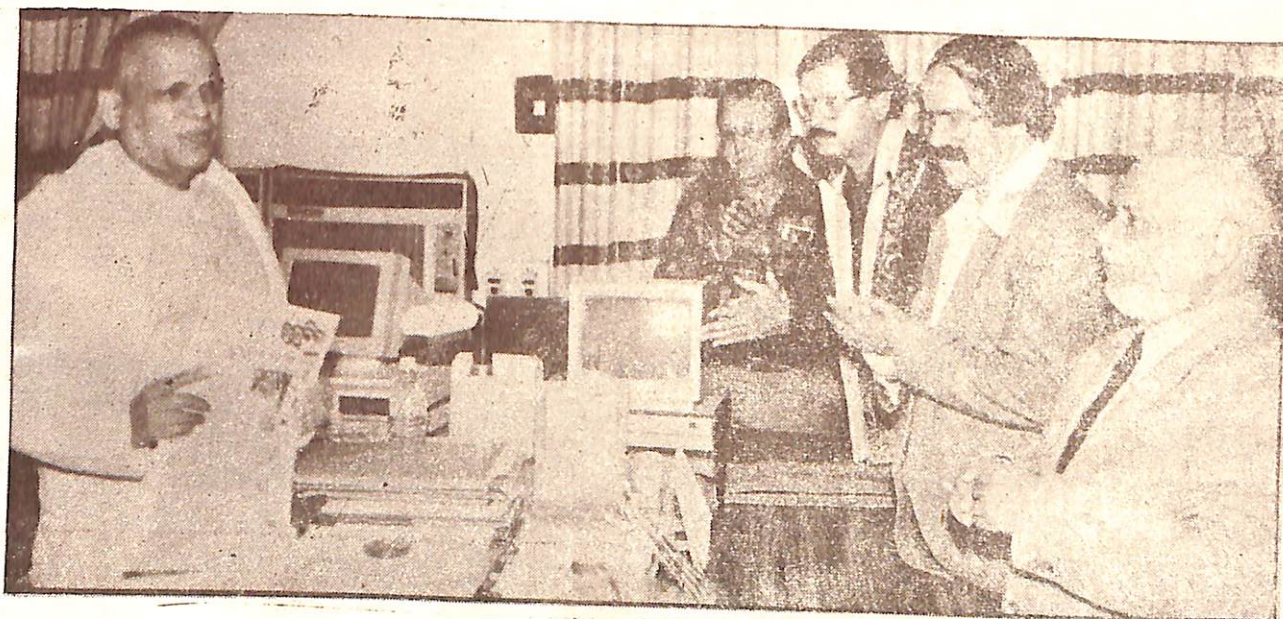
Capt. D. N. Sud, Chief of I.N.S. Chilika calling on Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik at his Secretariat Chamber.



Minister of State, Agriculture Shri Ramakanta Mishra addressing the National Seminar on cashew industry promotion at Hotel Prachi on 14-12-96.



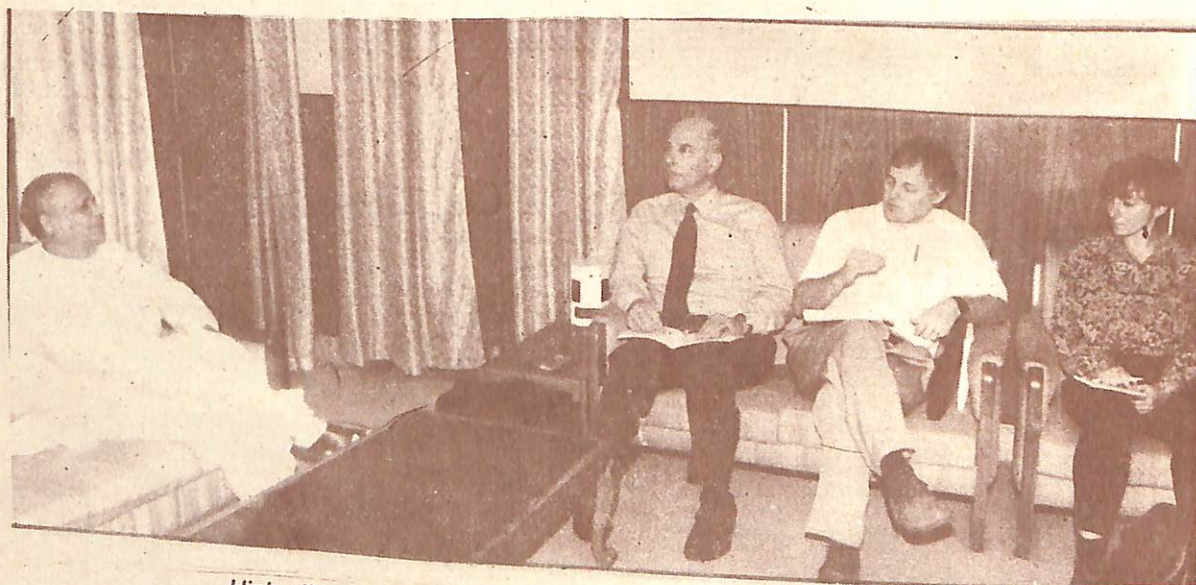
Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik felicitating an elderly statesman Shri Biswanath Patnaik with a plaque, scarf and a cash award of Rs. 25,000 on behalf of the Justice Rajkishore Das Memorial Foundation on the occasion of the first death anniversary at Sahid Bhavan, Cuttack on 16-12-96. Hon'ble Chief Justice, Orissa High Court Shri S. N. Phukan, inaugurator of the function is present.



Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik releasing the newly published Oriya daily Utkalika at his Secretariat Chamber on 10-12-96.



Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik inaugurating "Enterprises—96" organised by Confederation of Indian Industry at Exhibition Ground, Unit—III, Bhubaneswar on 7-12-96.



High officials of Overseas Development Agency calling on Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik at his official residence on 7-12-96

The Pipalpanka dam would have established water resources with abundant water available to the farmers for extensive irrigation for their parched agricultural lands. Jostling for attention with industry will be agriculture, freed from the restricting compulsions of water scarcity. Perennial water supply will mean more crops which in turn mean higher yields. With the tide having turned in favour of Gopalpur, a large population is sure to flock to it and there will be the ready market for the local produce. Since Tata Steel is doubling the quantity of the Kewra produced in its rehabilitation programme, this along with quicker growing varieties of fragrant flowering plants will be a real income generator in the year, 2002.

The model town at Sitalapalli and Luhajhar will be a flourishing modern complex. Increasing opportunities for growth and development will bridge the distance between far-flung towns of Gopalpur, Berhampur and Chatrapur turning them into a cohesive whole growth centre. Sweeping changes will be seen in the lifestyles of the rustic poor. Improved standard of living, superior nutrition standards, education and health facilities and all the simple amenities of modern living.

The plant site at Gopalpur is located 12 kms east of Berhampur town in the Ganjam district. The site has the National Highway to its north and the waters of the bay of Bengal to its south. The existing minor port of Gopalpur flanks eastern side of the plant site.

One has to only look at Jamshedpur to realise what Gopalpur will become once the Tatas put it on the world industrial map. Hitherto known only for its magnificent coastline, lush and sylvan environs and the bountiful kewra plantations, Gopalpur was a quiet, anonymous village not unlike the scores of others dotting the Orissa coastline, except for some very important difference. Gopalpur was a gold mine waiting to be unearthed.

International attention today is undeniably focussed on India which is surely but steadily growing into a colossus of the Third world. Steel giants of the world will keep a close watch on the developments in Gopalpur in particular and Orissa

in general. During the recent visit of the Orissa chief minister Shri J.B. Patnaik to the South East, many international ties were forged. Several reputed Chinese multinational companies have evinced their interest to invest in Orissa. It won't be wrong to say that several of them will be active participants in setting up a large port in Gopalpur and industries related to steel plant products in this region. As the world becomes a global village, where technologies exchange continents, where resources are readily shared, a futuristic vision is needed to see Gopalpur not as it is but how it will be when the legendary banner goes up there.

The state of Orissa is a living paradox, Abounding in mineral wealth, surplus electric power and a very congenial working atmosphere, it holds the dubious distinction of being the poorest state in the country. These rich natural resources—98% of India's chromite ore, 95% of nickel ore, 70% of bauxite, 26% of iron ore and 24% of the coal deposits, including 48% of thermal coal of the country, are totally unexploited. In addition, Orissa boasts of plentiful water resources constituting 11% of the water resources of the country with 11 river basins irrigating vast stretches. All the ingredients are present. It requires a connoisseur like the Tatas to whip it up into a world-class gourmet's delight. Industrialisation is the only means of liberating the wealth-generating power of these natural resources.

In 1990-91, Orissa had only 3.19% share of the total investment in the country, 1.33% of the total number of factories. The per capita investment in industry stood at Rs 1961 compared with the country's average of Rs 2303. Of all the avenues open to Orissa for industrialisation, steel easily tops the list. There can be no industrialisation without steel, Steel production and consumption are the keys to the economic development of the state. Orissa has about 3120 million tons of high-grade iron ore deposits. Its 480 Kms long coastline with adequate gradient of seabed is ideal for building up a number of ports. And as is known, 'Ports are the gateway to success and trade'. To underscore the importance of ports, out of the 17 large capacity integrated steel plants commis-

sioned throughout the world over the last 30 years, 13 are located on the coast and are at close proximity to the ports. The Orissa coast overlooks the growing steel markets of South East Asia and China. A steel plant located on the Orissa coast will have the added advantage of low raw materials transportation costs and an equally low product distribution cost. With the right impetus, financial backing and unstinted government support, Orissa is on the threshold of becoming a major steel producing centre in the country.

A large steel plant like the one envisaged by the Tatas will attract more upstream and downstream industries to come up in the industry-starved Gopalpur region which in turn will have a multiplying effect in generating wealth and bringing prosperity to the people through work and business.

Change is understandably abhorrent to the human psyche and more so to those eking a living out of land. To them their land is sacred, holy. The Tatas have evolved a very sound and comprehensive resettlement and rehabilitation programme for the 2083 families from the seven villages which face displacement.

Steel is basically a labour-intensive, modern technology. Steel industry has a spiralling effect

on the growth of upstream and downstream industries which use steel and by-products of the steel plant as raw material input. It is also quite possible that automobile manufacturing units may come up in this region as cold rolled sheets needed by automobile industry will be readily available next door from the Tatas' Steel plant. The total employment potential in the first phase of 2.5 million ton per annum integrated steel plant with its ancillaries, upstream and downstream industries, itself can run into the vicinity of 25,000-30,000. Close on the heels of the Tatas, several other business houses are waiting in the wings to take the plunge in Orissa.

About 25-30% of the production will be exported to the Asia-Pacific countries. The existing seasonal port at Gopalpur will be expanded to handle large vessels required for bringing raw materials to and taking finished products from the plant. From a seasonal port it will be upgraded to an all-season deep harbour port. Port facilities will bring in their wake developmental activities related to setting up of new industries and help in national and international trade. Significantly, the proposed port endeavours to bring back to Gopalpur the prominence it enjoyed centuries ago as a major port and export base to the Asia-Pacific.

Courtesy : TISCO

Governor Urged to rededicate ourselves for the welfare of the Disabled with devotion and sincerity

This is an occasion for all of us to rededicate ourselves for the welfare of the disabled with devotion and sincerity, emphasised Orissa Governor, Sri G. Ramanujam, inaugurating the **International Day for the Disabled** on 3-12-96 at Soochana Bhawan, Bhubaneswar, organised by Women and Child Welfare Department, Government of Orissa.

The objective of such worldwide observance is to create awareness in the community at large about the problems of the disabled persons, said, Orissa Governor, adding that 'they have as much rights as other able-bodied citizens of this country that our constitution envisaged also. Both Central and State governments have implemented several schemes and programmes to enable the disabled to realise the dignity, beauty and meaning of their existence', said the Governor while stating that Government of Orissa, to reaffirm its commitment have already adopted the State Policy for the disabled with the objective of promoting the welfare and development of the disabled persons.

"Disability is not a disease -every one must realise", opined the Governor and called upon the Non-Governmental Organisations and the Community as a whole to share the responsibility with the Govt. organisations in order to ensure full participation of the disabled population in the mainstream of social life.

TENTH FINANCE COMMISSION AND ORISSA

(Relevance of the "Alternative Scheme")

B. K. Tripathy

Introduction

India like all other federations of the World, such as USA, Australia, Canada and Switzerland faces two important fiscal problems or fiscal disequilibrisms. The first disequilibrium arises out of the allocation of resources between the Central and State Govts. and the second disequilibrium out of the imbalance existing among different regions of India. In other words, Indian federation faces two major problems, such as, the problem of non-correspondence of resources between the centre and states and the problem of regional economic imbalance. The problem of "non-correspondence" crops up as the Central Government has been assigned with a larger amplitude of financial resources whereas the States have comparatively low and inadequate sources of revenue in comparison to the manifold responsibilities performed by them. On the other hand, the regional imbalance is found as per capita income of some states like Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu are far higher than All India average per capita whereas the per capita income of some other states like Orissa, Bihar, U.P. Rajasthan, Kerala, Jammu & Kashmir and Madhya Pradesh is much lower than the all India average. Realising the gravity of these problems, the Constitution of India makes some provisions to facilitate necessary transfer of resources from the Union to the States to bring about better correspondence between resources and responsibilities between the Centre and the States. The resources are to be transferred from the Union to the States in the shape of tax sharing (Article-268, 269, 270 and 272) grants (Article-275) and loans, Article-293).

The Finance Commission has been set up to study, analyse and determine resource needs of different states and to allocate resources so as to meet their deficits.

Historical Background

The First Finance Commission gave importance to the objective of lessening inequalities between the States while determining distribution of resources. This objective continued till the Fourth Finance Commission highlighting the objective of bringing the comparatively backward states to a particular minimum level to reduce the existing disparities among states. Thus, the objective of reduction in regional disparities continues which in turn would improve the economic standard of the weaker sections of the people, and also improve the economic position of backward states.

If the revenue position of the States of the previous years is analysed to study the fiscal position of the Centre and States, it is found that the Sixth Finance Commission (1974-75) had been able to bring about surplus in revenue accounts of both the centre and the states. The 7th Commission (1979-84) advised for a huge transfer of resources to the States resulting in deficit in the revenue account of the centre and surplus in the revenue of the States. These deficits at the Centre and also at the States gradually worsened over years (up to 1995) as shown in Table-I.

Table -1

Revenue Deficits in the Centre and the States, 1974-1995

Period	(Rs. in Crores)		
	Centre	State	Total
1974-79 Annual Average	+534	+ 926	+ 1460
1979-84 -do-	-1449	+1102	-347
1984-89 -do-	-7508	-599	-8107
1989-90 -do-	-11912	-3682	-15594
1990-95 -do-	-24085	-6016	-30101

Source : E.&P.W, April, 22, 1995

Although the gross fiscal deficit in the central budget got reduced during 1991-92 and 1992-93 it

got out of control again in 1993-94. The fiscal deficit of the year 1993-94 reduced by 5% of G.D.P. and the revenue deficit got raised to 4.1%. In other words revenue deficit has been a persistent factor aggravating fiscal deficit at both State and National levels and the only way to reduce the revenue deficit is to curtail current non-plan expenditure and non-development expenditure. The Tenth Finance Commission was set to frame schemes for 1995 to 2000 under this background.

Tenth Finance Commission (TFC), 1995-2000

The T.F.C. started with a view to achieving certain objectives like :

- i) Projection of revenue and expenditure at state levels and centre level to bridge the gap between the Centre's capacity and the State's need.
- ii) Finding out the basis for vertical sharing of the shareable taxes between the two levels.
- iii) Determination of the formula for horizontal sharing of the devolved amount between the States and determination of specific gap/grants to the states which would remain stable even at the time of deficit.
- iv) Distribution of additional excise duties in lieu of Sales Taxes, Grants in lieu of the repealed tax on railway passenger fares, grants for upgradation of certain services in the States, grants for calamity relief, grants for local bodies and a scheme for debt relief.

The TFC has also introduced "Alternative Scheme of Devolution" which would provide long-term reforms in Centre, State fiscal transfers. This recommendation of the TFC (Tenth Finance Commission) has become a matter of debate. Generally shared taxes in India are of three types, such as (a) shared taxes like income tax and Union excise duties which are levied by the Central Government but the net proceeds of which the centre is required both by the Constitution and the law of Parliament to share with the States, (b) assigned taxes including seven different taxes of varying importance like estate duty on property tax other than agricultural land and taxes on railway fares and (c) agreed taxes like additional Union excise duties on mill-made textiles like cotton fabrics rayon or artificial silk fabrics, woollen fabrics etc., sugar, tobacco, manufactured tobacco in place of States sales tax and estate duty on agricultural land.

Now it has become necessary to see whether the basis of allotting shares from the divisible pool among the State is just and equitable and to examine whether Orissa as a backward state has been benefited by this new arrangement.

In this context the vertical share as recommended by previous Commissions are necessary to be studied and compared. Table - 3 gives such comparisons.

Table - 3

Shares of States in the Sharable Taxes (%)

Finance Commission	Income Tax	Basic Excise Duties
1st FC (1952-57)	55	40
2nd FC (1957-62)	60	25
3rd FC (1962-66)	66.67	20
4th FC (1966-69)	75	20
5th FC (1969-74)	75	20
6th FC (1974-79)	80	20
7th FC (1979-84)	85	40
8th FC (1984-89)	85	45
9th FC (1990-95)	85	45
10th FC (1995-2000)	77.5	47.5

Source - E. & P. Weekly 22nd April, 1995

It seems that the shares out of income tax, though had raised to 85% and remained constant at that since the 7th Finance Commission has again been reduced in the 10th F.C. However, shares out of basic excise duties have risen to 47.5% in the 10th F.C. although it had remained constant at 45% in the 8th and 9th Finance Commission. Thus the Tenth Finance Commission has brought about some changes in the allocation of resources to the State.

Relevance of the Alternative Scheme to Orissa

The "Alternative Scheme" given by the TFC has some important features such as

- (i) instead of allocating specified shares of the centre's revenue only out of income tax and excise duties, the states should be allocated a share of the aggregated pool comprising the gross tax revenue of the centre.
- (ii) The share of the states should be fixed at 26%.

iii) This will also cover the grant in lieu of tax on railway passenger fares.

iv) An additional 3% be allocated to the States in lieu of the additional excise duties the Centre is currently obliged to levy in lieu of the sales tax on three commodities that the states have agreed not to impose tax according to a tax rental arrangement.

v) While the states will be precluded from levying sales tax on these three commodities the Centre will merge the current additional excise duties with the basic excise duties.

vi) Taxes listed in Article 268 and 269 of the Constitution other than central sales tax and consignment tax shall form part of the proposed central pool.

vii) Surcharges imposed by the centre for the purposes of the Union will however not form part of the central pool.

viii) The proposed ratios of 26% and 3% on the basis of which the state's allocation will be determined out of the central pool shall be reviewed after 15 years.

ix) The horizontal distribution out of the central pool and the various grants (except grant-in-lieu of tax on railway passenger fares, will follow TFC's recommendation and subsequent FCS.

The TFC while determining the principle of pooling has not supported the existing system of states sharing revenues only from a few specified central taxes. Instead, it has recommended to pool the total tax revenues of the centre for this purpose. The TFC argues that such a pooling system would enable the states to share the aggregate buoyancy of central taxes" and at the same time it will reduce the burden of the Centre in sharing tax revenues with the States. The most important point arises here is whether pooling of all central taxes for purposes of sharing with the states will really improve the Centre's incentive to mobilise aggregate tax revenue or it will simply distribute the disincentive evenly over the various central taxes. Again by suggesting that 29% of the Centre's tax revenue should be shared, the TFC has only followed the path used earlier.

It is a fact that till the end of 1970s only 32% (approx) of the Centre's gross revenue used to

devolve on the states. The state's share had risen remarkably only from 1979-80. The revenue deficit in the budget of the Centre had become large and chronic after the 7th FC raised the proportion of Union excises for sharing from 20% to 40%. Hence now the question automatically arises whether the Centre's finances would be able to bear sharing of revenues raised by this extent without impairing the capacity of the centre in discharging its constitutional responsibilities.

The Central Government has made it clear to the TFC in its memorandum that in order to raise Rs. 100 crore for itself through excise duties it would have to raise Rs. 182 crore as 45% of any increase in the yield will accrue to the States. The Centre may be able to collect the required amount under pooling arrangement suggested by the "Alternative Scheme". Yet the Centre cannot further take any other advantage either from excise duties, corporation tax or custom duties unless it opts for raising additional revenue through surcharges imposed for the purposes of the Union which is beyond the pooling system suggested by the TFC.

The only alternative available to the proposed pooling of central taxes is to transfer some of the taxes on union list of the State list. But the TFC has pointed out that the weak points of Indian tax system heavy of dependency on indirect taxes and heavy emphasis on Union excises and sales taxes among the different domestic trade taxes have reduced the chances of any other alternative in Indian economy. Therefore states should take keen interest in reforming and improving the domestic trade taxes which would enable allocation of a tax revenue yielding more than 29% of central tax revenues as proposed by the TFC.

Ratio Criterion

TFC has formulated ratio on the basis of the amount accrued to the states in the form of shares of central revenue from income tax, basic excise duties and grants in lieu of tax on railway passenger fares along with the share of additional excise duties. The average shares worked out during the quinquennium, 1990-95 are 24.31% for the former and 2.95% for the latter. With this background the Commission has proposed to make 29% of aggregate central tax revenues shareable with the states in terms of a constitutional amendment and this proportion should be reviewed in every 15 years.

The figure of 29% has been arrived at as follows,

- (a) Shares in income taxes, basic excise duties and the grant in lieu of the tax on railway passenger fares have together amounted to about 24% of aggregate central tax receipts during 1979-1995.
- (b) Including the potential from taxes envisaged in Article-268 and 269, it will be reasonable to mark up this proportion to 26% and
- (c) additional excise duties have amounted to about 3% of aggregate central taxes during 1979-95.

It is felt that in the current arrangement of transfer of resources from the centre to the states the fixation of ration for the states at 29% may create a stagnant position in the centre-state fiscal relation. The states under this new arrangement may continue to depend for a major part of central transferring on channels other than the Finance Commission.

As per the information given by the TFC in 1994-95 (budget estimates) out of the total revenue account transferring from the centre to the states of Rs. 47,000- crore nearly 48% was in the form of grants, four fifths of which were outside the statutory framework comprising mostly central assistance for state plans and assistance for central and centrally sponsored schemes. Therefore, the states generally prefer transfer of central resources a certified and within the statutory framework to tied frame for resources linked to other scheme.

The Finance Commission and other central agencies play an important role in the redistribution of resources among states. But it will be hampered if domestic trade taxation is completely shifted to the states. Therefore it is necessary to find out an arrangement where the States could enjoy more adequate taxing powers, powers to carry out their responsibilities under the constitution and yet a proper redistributive mechanism could be devised.

Additional Excise duties

Addition of additional excise duties in the central pool as proposed by the TFC is not very simple. The additional excise duties are levied by the centre under an arrangement agreed upon with the states whereby the states surrendered their constitutional

right to levy Sales tax on Sugar, tobacco and textiles. The allocation of 3% of resources raised by this method among the states as proposed by the TFC seems reasonable. The question now arises whether states themselves could not raise higher revenue from levying sales taxes on these three commodities if they were empowered to do so. Some states have also shown interest for the right to impose sales tax on these three items to revert to them. In other words as states levy sales tax on several items, they can also manage to levy and collect taxes on these three items. In fact, if the suggestion of transferring the entire domestic trade taxes to the states is accepted then this problem of transferring three items will not arise.

It has been mentioned in the proposal to merge the additional excise duties with the basic excise duties. But no specification has been given about inter-state distribution of the 3% of the central pool.

Surcharges :

Although states claim that the centre is depriving them of the share from the revenue raised through surcharges, the TFC has allowed the centre to continue to have the power to levy surcharges for the purpose of the Union by excluding surcharges from the sharing arrangements.

15 - Yearly Reviews ;

TFC has recommended that state's share, out of the proposed central pool should remain fixed at 29% for a period of 15 years and thereafter it will be reviewed. But the TFC has not given any principle of revenue equivalence for 15-yearly reviews.

Inter-State Trade

The TFC has excluded Central sales tax and consignment tax from the pooling arrangement system.

It is necessary to examine if Orissa as a backward State gets benefitted by the "Alternative Scheme" proposed by the TFC.

The flow of the shared taxes show an increasing trend over years, on the other hand analysis of % of the resources transferred from the Centre to total revenue receipts of Orissa shows that it has declined in the year 1995-96. Although this % has increased to 60.5 in 1994-95 (R.E.) from 59.6 of the year 1986-87, it declined to 56.9% in the year 1995-96 (B.E.).

Resources Transferred from Centre (Rs. in crore)

Year	Shared Taxes	Grants & other contributions	Total	% to Revenue Receipts	Index of growth
1986-87	414.4	317.7	732.1	59.6	100
1987-88	402.2	388.1	790.3	59.3	108
1988-89	428.7	486.2	914.9	59.0	125
1989-90	572.6	444.7	1,017.3	58.4	139
1990-91	694.1	606.9	1,301.0	59.9	178
1991-92	830.5	683.3	1,513.8	61.9	207
1992-93	994.9	768.2	1,763.1	60.5	241
1993-94	1,067.8	864.6	1,932.4	60.2	264
1994-95	RE1,233.1	1,230.6	2,463.7	60.5	337
1995-96	BE1,296.1	1,053.0	2,349.1	56.9	321

Source- Orissa Budget in brief, 1995-96 DES, Orissa.

It is highly relevant to mention that in 1994-95 (Estimates) 27.70, of Centre's Gross Tax Revenue

have been diverted for tax devolution to states. As per this devolution the revised estimate of resources transferred from the centre to Orissa shows that during 1994-95 devolution of 27.70% of the Centre's Gross Tax Revenue supplies only 60.5% of the total revenue receipts of the state in that year. In this circumstances it is obvious that 26% of share of tax might not be able to fulfil the rising necessity of the State.

In fact it is not easy to fill up the vertical gap or to neutralise the vertical imbalances. It is because even if the revenue and requirements of the different govts. are assessed normatively, surpluses so made may not be sufficient to meet the needs of the states. Hence the Central Government should make a thorough study of the "Alternative Scheme" recommended by the TFC before taking any decision at least for the benefit of the poor states.

Director,
Economics & Statistics, Bhubaneswar

STATE NATURAL CALAMITY COMMITTEE RECONSTITUTED :

The State Natural Calamity Committee have been reconstituted as a sequel to the assurance given by the Chief Minister Shri J. B. Patnaik in the State Assembly. The Revenue Department has released the following list of Members.

1. *Chairman*— Chief Minister of Orissa, Shri J. B. Patnaik.
2. *Vice Chairman*— Minister, Revenue and Transport, Sri K. C. Lenka.
3. *Member-Secretary*— Principal -Secretary, Department of Revenue.

4. *Members*—

Deputy Chief Minister, Sri B. K. Biswal
Deputy Chief Minister, Sri Hemananda Biswal
Sri Srikanta Jena, Union Minister
Smt. Nandini Satapathy, Chairperson, State Planning Board.
Sri Ashok Das, Leader of Opposition.

Cabinet Ministers—

Sk. Matlub Ali, Sri Habibulla Khan, Sri Harihar Swain, Sri Amarnath Pradhan, Sri Jagannath Rout, Sri Netrananda Mallick, Sri Rabindra Kumar Sethi, Sri Prakash Chandra Debata

Members of the Parliament—

Sri K. P. Singh Deo, Sri Muralidhar Jena, Sri Sarat Chandra Patnaik, Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi, Sri Bhakta Charan Das

Members of the Orissa Legislative Assembly—

Sri Laxman Majhi, Sri Ram Krushna Patnaik, Sri Biswabhusan Harichandan, Dr. Kamala Das, Sri Jayanarayan Mohanty, Sri Dolagovinda Naik, Sri Bijaya Kumar Naik, Sri Nalinikanta Mohanty, Sri Rabindra Kumar Behera, Sri Panchanana Kanungo, Sri Judhistir Samantray, Sri Ghasiram Majhi, Sri Bikram Kesari Deo, Sri Surendra Singh Bhoi, Sri Rama Chandra Pradhan, Sri Dhanurjaya Laguri, Smt Usharani Panda, Sri Sudama Marandi,

Others—

Sri Sivaji Patnaik, Sri Lokanath Choudhury, *Ex-M.Ps.*; Chief Secretary; Member, Revenue Board; Special Relief Commissioner; Additional Development Commissioner; Commissioner, Agricultural Production; Secretary, Agriculture; Secretary, Energy; Secretary, Finance; Secretary, Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare; Secretary, Rural Development; Secretary, Water Resources and Secretary, Co-operation.

DISPOSAL OF URBAN GARBAGE

(A New Experiment by Kasturibala Women's Centre)

Manasi Patnaik

None other than the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi said, "Cleanliness is next to Godliness". This shows the importance attached to keeping ourselves clean. Not only every individual should pursue clean habits, but he should keep his surroundings neat and clean. What is true of the individual, is more so for the society. We live now a days in big cities and towns where many people are crammed in limited space. This makes it imperative on the residents that they keep their neighbourhood free of dirt, refuse and garbage for healthy and pollution-free living.

In earlier days most of the people were living in rural areas, which had ample open space, natural drainage and lots of greenery. With pressure of population and lack of employment facilities, people started mad rush to the urban areas thereby causing serious strain on the limited civic amenities like, open space, water supply, communication, health facilities, housing, etc. This gave rise to numerous human habitation clusters, commonly known as 'slums' surrounding all the big towns and cities. These slums had no water supply, sanitation and other modern amenities thereby creating serious health and environmental hazards resulting in spread of disease and death, not only in the slums alone but among the other urban population.

In the year 1994 dreaded plague spread in the city of Surat on account of accumulated garbage. Cholera, gastroenteritis, and malaria are almost endemic in Calcutta. This year the dreaded 'Dengu' fever spread in Delhi, the National Capital. All these calamities are regular visitors to the urban areas in the country on account of unclean streets, piling garbage, lack of potable water supply, clogged drains and stagnant accumulated water. This exposes poor state of our urban sanitation and our vulnerability to dreaded epidemics. This has also opened our eyes to the danger inherent in keeping our surroundings filthy.

Kasturibala Women's Centre, a non-governmental Voluntary Organisation, working in Bhubaneswar and surrounding rural areas, conducted a survey in I.R.C. Village and Baramunda Housing Board Colony, on the garbage disposal system and waste handling process of households, which is the key factor in maintaining a clean and healthy environment. In order to limit environmental pollution and check against infectious diseases efforts should begin from household level, particularly with regard to disposal of waste as unwanted materials which contain organic, inorganic, and recyclable materials dumped casually, mostly in the vacant space and road sides, drains, etc. This spreads pollution, blocks roads, sewage system and drains.. This helps in bearing of mosquitoes, flies and other germs, spreading malaria, filaria, cholera, etc.

Proper handling and disposal of this household waste is therefore very much necessary for any civilised society. This waste when recycled can also be converted to compost and cooking gas, which are eco-friendly as well as alternative source of energy.

In the survey, interview schedules were used to collect data, which also contained some structured and qualitative questions to assess the level of awareness, knowledge, attitude and received need of the respondents with regard to proper waste handling and dumping, besides, informal discussions were also held with local residents of different groups. In all, 60 households in both Nayapalli and Baramunda were covered. The study revealed that solid waste disposal system in both these areas is far from satisfactory. Household waste and unwanted materials are dumped in hap-hazard manner in front of their houses on the road side, vacant space and drains. Average household consisting of 5 members daily generates 3 kgs of garbage on an average. There were hardly dustbins for dumping

of garbage, thereby leading to indiscriminate dumping. It also creates problem for the civic authorities for collection of garbage which in any case was delayed for days and even months. No wonder, this creates numerous health hazards for the residents of the area. They are also forced to bear with the environmental pollution caused by waste materials dumped in their vicinity.

The household garbage contains organic wastes like vegetable peels, left out food and household sweepings, inorganic waste like polythene and plastic materials and recyclable waste like waste paper, glass and metallic waste.

Against this background, it was felt that a programme of garbage clearance from these areas is a basic felt need of the area. The respondents of these areas perceived the need of putting dust-bins to throw their household waste in order to keep the surrounding healthy and clean. They also emphasised the need for regular cleaning of the area and promised all co-operation.

After the survey report was received by Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation, they have entrusted the household garbage clearance work in a portion of I.R.C. Village consisting of 400 households to KWC. They have provided KWC with a trolley rickshaw and some implements. Besides they are paying towards wages of two workers and a

supervisor. The workers every morning go out with trolley rickshaw and collect household garbages from each doorstep. Weekly once, they also clean the streets of the areas, despite the fact that the only trolley rickshaw and manpower provided are quite inadequate to cover the area entrusted for clearing.

The garbage then collected are dumped in a particular place fixed by the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation, which is far away from the human habitat to be lifted by B.M.C. for disposal elsewhere.

Although this is not a fully satisfactory arrangement, as no proper recycling of the waste is done, yet this has helped in disposal of the household garbage away from the residential area.

Despite its resource constraints KWC has taken up this job with the motive of social service, without any pecuniary returns. It has been able to create awareness among the residents for orderly disposal of their household garbage and keeping their neighbourhood clean. This has been done through door to door approach and distribution of printed pamphlets for the benefit of the residents which has been well appreciated by the community. Sustained co-operation and help from the community will go a long way in making the programme a success.

Near VIP colony, IRC Village,
Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar



(PATHANI) SAMANTA CHANDRASEKHAR

Dr. T. Pradhan

Samanta Chandrasekhar is one of the great indigenous astronomers India has produced over the centuries. He was born in the year 1835 in the Raj family of ex-princely state of Khandapada. He was nick-named Pathani as the first two children of his parents had died in infancy. He received education from his learned father in the traditional Indian system through the medium of Oriya and Sanskrit. At an early age he studied *Smritis*, *Purans*, Grammar, Logic, Medicine and *Kavyas*. He found a few sanskrit *siddhantas* in the family library which attracted him to Astronomy. He picked up the subject very fast and acquired mastery over it. At the age of ten he could make measurments of position of stars and planets with instruments fabricated by him.



After prolonged and repeated measurements he found that the positions of almost all heavenly bodies did not agree with those predicted by the formulae given in the existing *siddhantas*. He had no much confidence in the accuracy of his measurements that he became sure of certain factors not having been taken into account in these formulae. After careful study he found that these *siddhantas* ignored the small effects of *ayana chalanam* which in modern astronomy is known as the precession of the equi-

noxes. He made correctioin for this in the existing formulae.

Pathani Samanta started noting down of his observations systematically when he was twenty-three years old. The idea of writing a treatise occurred to him three years later. By this time he had acquired great mastery in Sanskrit and could compose verses impromptu. This treatise which he named as *Siddhanta Darpana* was completed when he was thirty and was published in the year 1899 with a brilliant expositoty introduction by Jogesh Chandra Ray, who was Professor of Science at Ravenshaw College. The treatise is written in Sanskrit verse and contains 2500 *slokas*, 216 of which are quotations from the *Siddhanta Shiromani* of Bhaskara. According to Jogesh Chandra Ray *Siddhanta Darpana*, apart from being a great piece of work in astronomy is a super specimen of Sanskrit poetry.

The astronomical works of Pathani Samanta became known to the outside world through the efforts of Raja of Manjusha whom the Samanta met at Parikuda at the time of marriage of his uncle who was then the Raja of Khandapada. It came to the notice of the British astronomers and in recognition of his work the British Indian Government conferred upon him the title of Mahamahopadhyaya in a special Darbar held in the year 1893 at Kataka by the-then Governor General Lord Lansdowne.

Pathani Samanta died in 1904 at the age of sixty-nine at Puri where he had gone to die at the feet of Lord Jagannath. The story goes that he predicted the date and time of his death and proceeded to Puri accordingly but due to certain errors in his astrological calculations his prediction did not materialize. He had to come back second time and died on the corrected date.

Although Pathani Samanta is a legendary figure in Orissa, very few people know about his astronomical works. He is popularly known as an astrologer and a *gyotishi* who gave prescriptions for writing annual *Panjika*. Many think that he observed stars through a bamboo pipe. It would therefore be appropriate to very briefly tell about his achievements. The Samanta made measurements of the positions of stars and planets with the aid of his Manayantra which

consisted of a thin rod of wood at the end of which was fixed another rod at right angles in the form of the letter T. The cross-piece was notched and pierced with holes at distances equal to tangents of the angles formed at the free extremity of the rod. It is surprising that with a crude instrument such as this, Samanta's measurements of the angular distances of the stars and planets are found to be in close agreement with those of the modern astronomy. In contrast the measurements recorded in *Surya Siddhanta* of Varahamihira and *Siddhanta Shiromani* of Bhaskara are quite off the mark.

The investigations on the motion of the Moon can be considered as the most important of Pathani Samanta's works. Modern astronomers have observed three important irregularities in the motion of the Moon which are known as EJECTION, VARIATION and ANNUAL EQUATION. These irregular motions of the moon had not been observed by any other Indian astronomers. The Samanta, who observed these named them as TUNGANTARA, PAKSHIKA and DIGAMSA. The Greek astronomer Hipparchus is said to have detected EJECTION in 150 B.C. and the Arabian astronomer, A. Wefa of 10th Century A.D. is credited with the same achievement. The sixteenth century Danish astronomer Tycho Brahe had observed both EJECTION and ANNUAL EQUATION.

Another important work of Samanta is the determination of the Sun's distance from the Earth. He was not happy with the estimation of this distance by the earlier Indian astronomers who had put it as fourteenth times the Earth-Moon distance. He considered the ratio to be too small but the number 154, for this ratio obtained by him is far too short of 400 obtained from modern astronomical measurements.

The people of Orissa speak with great pride how Pathani Samanta challenged the British to disprove his assertion that the Sun goes round the Earth. I never understood how an astronomer of the calibre of Samanta Chandrasekhar could say such a thing until I came across an Oriya translation of the relevant *slokas* in *Siddhanta Darpana*. To my surprise I found that in these *slokas* the Samanta explains the dynamics of the motions of a two-body system which is quite similar to what we do in modern classical mechanics. According to him, in a two-body system both the objects revolve about their common *bharakendra* which in present day dynamics is called centre of mass. It would therefore be strictly not correct to say that the Earth moves round the Sun. Such a description turns out to be approximately

correct because the *bharakendra* of the Sun-Earth system lies deep inside the Sun very close to its centre. On the other hand Samanta's calculations show that the *bharakendra* of the Sun-Jupiter system is well outside the Sun. Samanta poses the question whether in view of this Jupiter can be taken to be revolving round the Sun.

The description of the Earth-Sun motion with the Sun going round the Earth would be mathematically equivalent to that of the Earth going round the Sun on account of relativity if the existence of other heavenly bodies such as distant stars is ignored. Imagine that you are on a train by the side of another train. It will be impossible to tell which train is moving unless you look at a third object such as a distant tree which would appear to move if your train is in motion. A similar thing happens in the Sun-Earth system. If the Earth is moving round the Sun distant stars viewed from the Earth would appear to move and complete a closed path during a year. This apparent motion of the distant star which is called Parallax is so minute that it can only be detected with the aid of very sensitive telescopes. Parallaxes of stars were first observed in the nineteenth century which conclusively proved that the Earth moves round the Sun or (actually round a point very close to the centre of the Sun). The Samanta could not have observed this parallax with his Manayantra.

Pathani Samanta did not discover anything which was not known in modern astronomy. But in a sense everything he observed was new as far as he was concerned because he was unaware of the discoveries of modern astronomy. Science is a collaborative endeavour where hundreds of scientists work to establish scientific truths. But here is one man working alone in some distant corner of Orissa using hand-made crude instruments who builds of the entire system of positional astronomy on his own, a feat unmatched in the history of science.

After seeing the stars through the Ravenshaw College telescope Pathani Samanta is quoted as having said, "If only I had this instrument in my younger days". Things would have been entirely different if the Samanta had access to sensitive telescopes and other astronomical equipment and facilities available to modern astronomers of his time. It will not be an exaggeration to say that he would have possibly emerged as another Newton or Einstein.

Courtesy : *Orissa - Past and Present*, Visva Oriya Sammilani, Cuttack, 1992

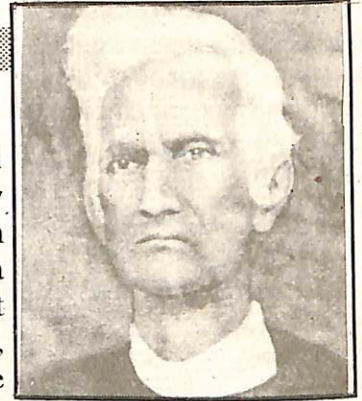
FAKIR MOHAN SENAPATI THE FATHER OF THE ORIYA NOVEL

Prof. Ganeswar Mishra

Fakirmohan Senapati's (1843-1918) emergence as a novelist was significant not only for Oriya literature, but also for Indian literature as a whole. Unlike his predecessors and contemporaries such as Umesh Chandra Sarkar who wrote the first novel in Oriya (*Padmamali*, 1888) Ramashankar Ray (1858-1907) and Gopal Ballav Das, (1860-1914) Senapati completely discarded the theme of romantic love between a prince and princess and wrote about the common people and their problems. In contrast to the heavy Sanskritised style of Sarkar, Roy and Das, Senapati used colloquial idiomatic Oriya with great skill and competence. If the early novelists' works seem more or less like prose renderings of medieval *kavyas*, Senapati's novels are realistic to the core. Moreover, Senapati can be favourably compared with twentieth century novelists such as Premchand and Bibhutibhusan Banerjee.

Senapati was born in the coastal district of Balasore, in a poor peasant family. He had no formal education but he led an active and eventful life working as a teacher, a printer and significantly as a Dewan (Administrator) in various princely states of Orissa. As an administrator he came in contact with the people of various walks of life which must have helped him a great deal to collect material for his fiction. It is important to note that the period Senapati lived and wrote was one of the darkest in Orissan history. The Oriyas then had no state of their own (Orissa was formed in 1936) and they lived scattered in three neighbouring states; Bengal; Madhya Pradesh and Madras. As a result they were economically neglected and had little opportunity to develop their literature and culture. Since there were few schools in Oriya speaking areas the Oriyas were extremely backward in education.

Some influential Bengalis interestingly started a campaign that Oriya was not a language but a dialect of Bengal, hence, Oriya should be repalced by Bengali in Orissan schools.



During Senapati's time there was the *Desha Mishrana Andolan* or the movement to bring all the Oriya speaking areas under one political administration. It was also felt that it was important to write text books and other works to enrich the modern Oriya literature if the Oriya language was to survive.

With this background in view, it is easy to understand why Senapati began his literary career as a writer of text books and why Oriya nationalism was a dominant theme in Oriya literature in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Senapati apparently had no literary ambition in his youth. His purpose in writing text books was prompted by his zeal of opposing the move to abolish Oriya from Orissan schools.

Though Senapati is recognised as the greatest prose writer in Oriya, it is amazing that he hardly wrote any prose (novels, short stories and autobiography) until he retired from administrative service. But all through his life he was a prolific writer of verse producing *kavyas*, lyrics, satires and *puranas*. He translated the *Ramayana* and the *Mahabharat* and some of the *Upanishads* from the original Sanskrit. Though never as prominent a poet as his friend and contemporary, Radhanath Roy, Senapati was a highly respected poet who was offered the title of Saraswati by the royal court of Bamanda state.

For his translation of the *Mahabharat* he is also known as *Vyasa Kavi*.

Senapati's poetry was overshadowed by the poetry of Radhanath Roy, which was immensely popular because it depicted love between a prince and princess in a language that was extremely lyrical and charming. Though less gifted than Roy, Senapati's poetry anticipated modern poetry in a number of ways. He wrote on themes which conventionally were not considered fit material for poetry and he used the colloquial, spoken and rugged language of the common man which no poet in Oriya had done for centuries. His *Utkala Bhramana* which he wrote at one stretch while travelling on official duty on the back of an elephant is a classical in humorous verse.

Senapati wrote four novels, two volumes of short stories and an autobiography. Some critics believe that *Lachhmania*, a story by Senapati published in a local magazine of Balasore was the first short story written in any Indian language. Unfortunately this short story was lost. But the two volumes of short stories (*Galpa Swalpa* Vols I and II) unmistakably prove that Senapati is a master in the art of writing short stories. He was out and out a realist who drew his material from the society around him. His *Atma Charita* (Autobiography, 1917). Senapati's autobiography, is not only the first of its kind in Oriya, but remains the best, and is perhaps one of the most interesting autobiographies written in Indian languages. It is important both as a work of art and as an account of Orissan life in the late nineteenth, and the early twentieth centuries. Moreover, it is as readable as any of Senapati's novels and short stories.

Senapati's novels comprise : *Lachhama* (1901), *Chha-mana Atha Guntha* (Six Acres and a Half 1902) *Mamu*, (Uncle, 1913) and *Prayaschitta* (Expiation, 1915). *Lachhama* is historical novel set against the backdrop of the Maratha invasion of Orissa in the eighteenth century. The other three novels are portraits of contemporaneous society. All these four novels can be taken as depicting the social history of Orissa

from the eighteenth to the early twentieth century.

Lachhama is a story of the Maratha invasion of Orissa which depicts the suffering and the heroic resistance of an Oriya country girl in the face of the invasion. *Chha'mana Atha Guntha* is a vivid account of the exploitation of poor village folk by zamindars. *Mamu* again is a story of exploitation of village folk by petty government officials and clerks. *Prayaschitta* portrays the predicament of a semi-educated youth who persistently defies the old order of things with his overenthusiasm for new Western values.

It is easy to see that Senapati was intensely aware of the social changes that were taking place during his life-time. Except his first novel for which he must have gathered material from second-hand sources he wrote all his works from his own experience. Exploitation of the poor villagers by zamindars and the rise of a new class of exploiters in the petty officials and clerks under the British Government were the two dominant traits of nineteenth century Orissan social history and Senapati chose to write about them in *Chha'man Atha Guntha* and *Mamu*, Senapati's last novel in which he studied the conflict between traditional Indian values and Western values as understood by the educated youth of the time, clearly suggests that he was neither a traditionalist nor an over-zealous advocate for the new wave of Westernisation that was sweeping over the country. Perhaps he preferred a middle course. Exploitation of the poor by the rich has been such a dominant theme in Indian fiction especially in the thirties and the forties that the story of *Chha'mana Atha Guntha* may not seem very significant to many contemporary readers. But Senapati was perhaps the first Indian novelist to write about this theme, thus anticipating works like Premchand's *Godan* (1936). Though almost a contemporary of the great Bengali novelist Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, Senapati was surprisingly different from him in his choice of theme as well as language and style. Senapati's colloquial style is a contrast to Chatterjee's literary, high-flown and Sanskritised prose. Senapati,

not having as much Western education as Chatterjee, wrote unfluenced by literary masters of any kind.

Senapati's novels are a portrait gallery of characters. Most of his characters have become archetype in Oriya literature. Even a minor character that appears once or twice in a Senapati novel leaves a permanent impression on the reader. Senapati seems to be at his best when he portrays the Satan in man. His most memorable characters, thus are Mangaraj and Champa. Compared to extremely lively portraits of Mangaraja and Champa, Bhagia and Saria appear shadowy and sketchy. Though Senapati had love and sympathy for the poor and the neglected in society, he did not seem to have known them as intimately as he knew the rich and the affluent. In *Chha'Mana Atha Guntha* we get the vivid picture of Mangaraj's domestic world but nothing of the background of Bhagia and Saria.

Senapati writes in the tradition of realism and indeed, there are chapters, such as the one of *Chha'mana Atha Guntha* describing the filth and the dirt in the village pond, which are totally unexpected from a novelist rooted in the nineteenth century.

Senapati's sense of humour and irony have remained unsurpassed in Oriya literature and it is this characteristic which has made him popular with a wide range of readers. However, it is possible to find fault with his form which is loose and episodic. This may be partly due to the fact that the novels were written to be serialised in monthly magazines. A profoundly religious man Senapati ends all his novels with the wicked being punished either by some external agent or by his own conscience, thus conforming to the convention of poetic justice.

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Bhubaneswar

Thai Company evinces interest in Port Development

Mr. Poul Poulsen visited Orissa from 7-1-97 to 10-1-97 in order to explore the possibility of developing major ports in our State. The visit comes as a sequel to the Chief Minister's visit to Thailand in October '96 when he met Mr. Kirit Shah of the G. Premjee Group, the largest shipping company in Thailand. During the Thailand visit Premjee Group had shown keen interest in Port development in our State. Mr. Poulsen is the Vice President of Stevedoring Services, America (SSA) Thailand Co. Ltd. SSA is a well known company for cargo handling services world-wide. They have formed a joint venture company named International Sea Ports Pte. Ltd. (ISP) with Precious Shipping Pcl, part of the G. Premjee Group Bangkok and Larsen & Toubro Ltd., Madras for handling of cargo, operating berths at major Ports on BOT basis etc.

Mr. Poulsen alongwith Mr. R. Rangarajan of L & T Ltd, visited the proposed site for Dhamra Port on 7-1-97 and Gopalpur Port on 8-1-97. They have shown keen interest to develop Dhamra as a greenfield Port. They held discussions with senior Govt. Officials led by the Addl. Chief Secretary, Shri S. B. Mishra. They also called on the Chief Minister Shri J. B. Patnalk and expressed interest in the development of Gopalpur Port including a satellite development and the Dhamra Port. ISP showed interest in developing Dhamra Port with the active assistance from the State Government. They were informed that State Government will shortly invite offers of interest from parties to develop Dhamra as a Port. ISP was requested to participate in the bidding process. Govt. has assured all infrastructure support in case the project is implemented by them and can assist in finding initial cargo. L & T also evinced interest in BOT projects in the road sector and has agreed to look into the Balugaon bypass project.

SACHI ROUTRAY

A Poet of the People

Bhaskar Parichhba

The house at Cuttack's Mission Road is just another conventional apartment-undulating creepers, a rattan sofa and the kids playing around. Amidst these niceties of life an unusual calm prevails all over. Is that indicative of an ageing silence?

Not exactly, for Sachi Routray puts in some amount of writing even at this age (the poet is past 80). Despite failing eyesight he suffers from cataract and glaucoma "I take the help of Nityanand when I intend to write prose, and poetry I write myself."

Sachi Routray has been writing poems for more than half-a-century now or even more. Countless poems : rich in form and content using symbols, myths and archetypes; most of them in free verse. In a sense, he is without parallels. While his contemporaries are all taciturn in spirit, Routray, acclaimed to be the People's Poet continues to wield his pen. He has indeed been a prolific writer—a poet, a short story writer, a novelist and a critique all rolled into one. He is a towering figure in modern Oriya literature. A BODHIDRUMA, the *enfant terrible*.

Routray belonged to that group of writers who called themselves poets of the people. They echoed the ideas of Sigmund Freud, Lenin, Karl Marx and Walt Whitman in their writings. Influenced as he is also by T.S. Eliot and Dylan Thomas Sachi Routray was the innovator of ultramodern note in Oriya poetry. Modern Oriya poetry, with its vast repository of words and one being firmly in saddles today, owes much to Routray. He is the source of inspiration to many poets of the present genre. Sachi Routray did to Oriya poetry what Ram Dhari Sing DINAKAR had done to Hindi or Kazi Nazrul Islam to modern Bengali verse.

Anand Shankar Ray, Premendra Mitra, Jibanananda Das, Sri Sri and others were his contemporaries "Some were senior to me in age, some were younger than me" All these poets belonged to the progressive movement of the early thirties. In the backdrop of this movement was the socialist philosophy of life based on the doctrine of dialectical materialism.

Was he a Communist? "I was in the Communist party but I was never a card holder of the party." Truly, Routray's thinking went along Communist line and many of his earlier poems had echoes of a classless society—a philosophy that is now almost extinct.

Sachi Routray has always been a political person, but the poetic genius in him at one point of time, set an altogether different agenda for this grass-root poet. Routray the politician rolled over, the poet moved in. It is a measure of his artistic maturity that in his best poems he has not succumbed to the temptation of cheap applause. Their origins may be in the political struggle, but he distilled the passion to an experience of universal appeal. A curious mix of the mundane and the abstract!

Sachi Routray was born in Gurujang near Khurda on May 13, 1916. While a school boy he was drawn into the vortex of the freedom struggle. So revolutionary were his poems that some of them were banned by the British. Sachi Routray made the debut in writing poetry at the early age of eleven. He has been writing poems ever since.

Routray's first anthology of poems was *PATHEYA* (Pathway). That, in fact, set the path for a whole range of creations. In a writing career spanning six decades he has published many volumes of verse. Beginning with *PANDULIPI* (Manuscript)

up to KAVITA -1990 Routray's poems have been as varied and powerful as his life.

Essentially a romantic poet, he became acutely aware of the impact of the contemporary life on the individual and he expressed this awareness with honesty and through the use of carefully chosen images which acted a kind of objective correlation of that awareness.

Then, like all poets, Routray is the poet of truth and beauty. If he blazed the trail of revolution in Oriya poetry he touched life at all levels. If he could roar out the freedom's song like a lion, he could also coo like a dove and sing about love. The poet's love for nature and freshness of vision is unparalleled :

*The earth with its
arrays of sea-dark keeps me enchained and
entombed for a moment that is life.*

*Its soft alluvial plains
Its topaz light and shades
Its cloud-bank portending rain
Green furzes
And verdant fields
by three rivers washed*

(APOCALYPSE)

Whether in his earlier poems or in the ones of the later age he has been in the quest of a suitable medium which could combine spontaneity of speech form with the grandeur of the classical style. He achieved a remarkable success in this experimentation. His versification has a vivid imagery, penetrating perception and acute awareness of the current happening. Routray has his own technique of writing poetry. The essential element being its address to the downtrodden. At the same time, they have an important bearing on the social milieu.

In some of his poems like ABHIYAN (Expedition), RAKTASIKHA (Flames of Blood) and PALLISREE (The Rural Beauty) he has raised his voice of protest against exploitations of various kinds. Many of his poems are clarion calls to the struggling masses to come out of the cages of servitude.

The poor farmer, the wage earner, the mazdoor and the hapless man of the town all have been Routray's characters. He is a prophet-tongue of fire. Somewhere in his poetic sojourn the rebel in him is disillusioned with the *laissez faire* and also the totalitarian state "the all devouring state. Not people-owned, but owning them; An end in itself".

PANDULIPI, KAVITA 1962, SWAGATA, PALLISHREE, BHANUMATIR DESHA, ABHIYAN, HASANTA, KAVITA-1977, KAVITA-1986, KAVITA-1987 AND KAVITA -1990.... the list is inexhaustible But could there be one which we call the masterpiece ?

"It is difficult to make such a categorisation. All creations are important to me", argues the poet. "Relatively at least ?" well it could be KAVITA -1962 because it gave to my poetry a status and a place in the pan-Indian set up".

And KAVITA-1962 was certainly a milestone both for the poet and the literature he writes in. It embodied his experiments with a grand new style and technique of experiencing the contemporary realities. It was the harbinger of new wave poetry in Oriya vis-a-vis other provincial literature.

The desiccation, fragmentation and sense of importance that characterises the consciousness of the individual self under the strains of modern living find powerful depiction in his earlier poems as also in the poems of today. Thematically, the consciousness of death has been a potent factor in his poems as this would illustrate :

*But one day that complex hand
will pounce upon us and this hard door
will break, the lights will be switched off.
That hand will embezzle my sure universe
and will disappear in a moment;
It is that Death some call it eternity—
Alas ! Alas ! that black, dreadful, cat.*

Yet another poem of Routray's oeuvre is BAJI ROUT. Translated by Harindra Nath Chattopadhyaya into English (The Boatman Boy

And Forty Other Poems) this anthology is a landmark in Indian literature. The poem is about the martyrdom of a 12-year old boy of Bhuban in Dhenkanal. The boy who gallantly laid his life at the hands of the British police has emerged as an emblem of true sacrificial grandeur on the canvas of unkindled futurity. This is an immortal creation of Sachi Routray as it has kindled the hope and aspiration among the people who were tyrannised by the British as well as the feudal overlords of Dhenkanal.

Doesn't one find a mutually contradictory voice in his poems ? Why often this change of tack ? Is there no permanent teeth in his poems ?" In my poems there is everything that concerns the life. There is love, revolution, death.....everything. There are all fragments of life. My poems are basically poems of the human life. There is no trickery in my verse. I write what I see in the society." And seeing he has been all that happens to ALAKA SANYALS and PRATIMA NAYAKS—the two most discussed characters in Routray's oeuvre.

Sachi Routray wrote short stories as well with equal poise and elegance. They may not be as varieagated as the poems, but, like poems, they give expression to the feelings and emotions of humanity. The inner conflicts of man, the deprivations and the socio-political reality all are narratives of a unique kind. For instance, MASANIRA PHULA (Flower in the Graveyard). MALA KAIN (The Withered lily) and ANGUTHI (Finger) and a host of other anthologies. Just as poetry, some of Routray's short stories too have heralded a new beginning in Oriya prose literature.

In 1935 Routray wrote *CHITRAGREEBA*. This novel (or an antinovel as he claims) was very popular for its varied characterisation, subtle treatment and intellectual snubbing.

So, will it be appropriate to say at this juncture that the history of modern Oriya poetry, nay literature, is synonymous with the poetry of Sachi Routray ?" From a historical vantage point, my poems have been the frontrunners in giving a newness to Oriya poetry. It is me who tuned modern

Oriya verse. I have been the source of influence to many poets of subsequent generations."

From the backwaters of GURUJANGA in Khurda—the place is famous for bravery and the martial arts—Routray spent most of his youth in Bengal. It is during his student days that he did most of his revolutionary writings. He worked for two long decades as an executive with Kesoram Cotton Mills until he returned to Cuttack in 1962. Perhaps the poet's ideological moorings weren't in consonance with his job. He quit. Once out of job, he devoted all his time to writing.

Routray has travelled extensively abroad and that accounts for the cosmopolitan outlook we find in his works. For his seminal contributions to literature awards have flower to him—**Padmasree** in 1962; **Kendriya Sahitya Akademi Award** in 1964, **Soviet Land Award** in 1965 and the mother of all awards the **Jnanapeeth** in 1986.

Sachi Routray's life is the confluence of three different streams : he is born Oriya, educated and grew up in Bengal and married to a Telugu princess of Golapalli. The consummation of three cultures of Utkal, Banga and Dakshin opened up new vistas and established cross-cultural linkages. A *Triveni Sangam* to say it rather rhetorically.

Sachidananda Routray is not only a poet but a humanist and a visionary as well. His response to modernity lies in his patient sympathy for the poor and the oppressed, the desolate and the ruined. His poems have a natural tendency to speak for the lower substratum of the society. His poetic crusades release a sense of freedom and aggressiveness. Routray's staunch faith in man, his assertive protest and dissent against man's frustration and despair and his undying dreams for man's social salvation make him truly a poet of the people, the JANAKAVI.

A/16, Baramunda Housing Board,
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A PROFILE OF HANDICRAFT SECTORS IN GANJAM DISTRICT

Dr. Umesb Chandra Saboo

GANJAM DISTRICT

The erstwhile undivided Ganjam, the largest district of Orissa spreads over a total geographical area of 12556 square kilometers. The total population of the undivided district (now reorganised as Ganjam and Gajapati) is 31, 40, 477 (1991 Census) and represents 9.97 of the total population of the State. The density of population per square kilometer of area comes to 251 persons. This is comparatively higher than the average population density of the State which is 202 per sq. Km. The decadal growth of population of the district is 17.72 per cent which is below the all Orissa decadal population growth rate of 9.50. The number of villages in the district is 4659 (inhabited 4223 and uninhabited 436). The rural population (2,72,79,615 as per 1991 Census accounts for 85.03 percentage of the total population (3,15,12,070) of the district. Thus Ganjam is predominantly a rural district and hence the District Rural Industries project has been launched by NABARD.

The scheduled tribe population of undivided Ganjam is 29, 68, 45 (Gajapati 2, 17, 725 +Ganjam 79,120) as per 1991 Census. Of the total population of the district, the occupational classification of main workers, marginal workers and total workers as per 1991 Census is given below :

Occupational Classification	Gajapati	Ganjam	Undivided Ganjam
Cultivators	95731	368938	464669
Agricultural Labourers	67481	311989	379470
Household Industry	2399	28653	31052
Other Workers	25093	237468	262561
Total main workers	190704	947048	1137752
Marginal workers	33432	136855	170287
Total workers	224136	1083903	1478326

1991 Cenus, Source - D.E. & S, Bhubaneswar

The percentage of cultivators to main workers in the district is 40.84 per cent, percentage of agricultural labourers to main workers is 33.55 per cent, and percentage of main workers to total population is 36.02 per cent. Thus the percentage of total workers to total population is 41.41 percent as per 1991 Census.

The data above reinforces the predominance of agriculture and allied sectors in the district. However, agriculture and allied sectors in the district are not geared to absorb the additional inflow of labour due to limited possibility to increase the land use pattern and water resources to support more people in agriculture and allied activities. Thus, while the employment potential in agricultural sector is limited, the scope of rural non-farm sector particularly the handicraft sector is vast and could be tapped for creating mass employment opportunities. With this background a sub-sectoral analysis is attempted in this report mainly to know the potential of rural handicraft sector in the district of Ganjam.

HANDICRAFT SECTORS

Since last two decades the rural artisan sector has shown phenomenal growth in the district. These artisan enterprises are undertaken in small units and provide productive employment opportunities in the rural areas. Many of these enterprises have been organised through artisan cooperatives.

According to the Survey Report (1993-94) prepared by District Industries Centre, Berhampur, there are 22 major craft items which have been indentified in the 23 blocks of Ganjam District.

The details of crafts including Artisans, work force involved in production and sales in lakhs are presented in the table given below :

Sl No.	Name of the Craft	No. of Artisan	Production (in lakh)	Sale (in Lakh)	Artisans Under Coop. Fold
1	Bellmetal	992	210.91	262.91	416
2	Applique Works	309	7.96	10.37	309
3	Hornworks	64	1.90	2.30	47
4	Coir	211	1.85	2.42	211
5	Betel nut	27	1.08	1.25	--
6	Filigree works	69	112.18	133.27	--
7	Wood craft	68	6.69	8.85	29

Sl No.	Name of the Craft	No. of Artisan	Production (in lakh)	Sale (in Lakh)	Artisans Under Coop. Fold
8	Cotton toy making	109	2.82	3.06	50
9	Fabric printing	34	1.51	1.68	15
10	Keora Essence	114	28.80	32.75	--
11	Sea Shell	14	0.325	0.47	--
12	Musical Instrument	45	1.91	2.35	10
13	Stone Carving	130	20.97	26.15	200
14	Woollen Carpet	200	14.95	17.09	16
15	Papier mache	55	2.44	2.83	30
16	Cane & Bamboo works	126	6.43	7.24	05
17	Threatical Dress	19	1.91	2.18	21
18	Patta chitra	92	5.90	6.70	20
19	Lacquered toys	52	2.15	2.40	05
20	Artistic Asan making	12	0.20	0.25	15
21	Casting	15	0.54	0.60	10
22	Artistic leather works	13	1.40	1.70	--

Source : DIC, Ganjam, Berhampur, 1993-94

Brass and Bell Metal

Brass and bell metals are the two earliest known alloys of India. Large utilisation of these two alloys is observed in rural Ganjam. This is purely a hereditary occupation. Production is made in the households wherein all members of the artisan family are involved in different process. The old used brass metal is collected and reprocessed. They design according to the demands of local needs. People belonging to the same caste are the agents in marketing the products in and outside the State. There are five cooperative societies functioning in the district and assisting in areas of credit and marketing the products. The members under cooperative fold are 416 and the rest produce independently without seeking any support of cooperative societies.

Applique

The applique work of Ganjam district is 500 years old and widely appreciated like all other ritual handicrafts. The major items are canopies, umbrella, ladies', vanity bags, cushion cover, fancy hand bags, sofa cover, small fans, wall hangings, table cloth, garden umbrellas, and such special works as *Meghadambara*, *Nabagunjara* and *infinitum*. The raw materials like cloth, thread, colouring materials, etc. are locally available. On the whole, opera-

tion right from procurement of raw material to the manufacture of the finished products, all the members of the family share their labour. The male and female members as well as children participate in the labour process according to the traditional division of labour.

According to the Survey Report (1993-94) prepared by DIC, Berhampur, the value of total production is Rs. 7.96 lakhs with a sale value of Rs. 10.37 lakhs. All the artisans are covered under the fold of cooperative societies. The products are fairly available in the District Gramodyog Marketing Cooperative Society, Berhampur and Applique Work Society, Ganjam.

Coir

Coir ropes and coir yarn have been produced in coastal districts of Orissa all along. Since 18th Century coir ropes and coir yarns have been exported from Ganjam district. Coir matting society and training-cum-production centre are functioning around Gopalpur-on-sea. Currently 211 artisans engaged in production are found in the blocks of Rangailunda, Ganjam and Rayagada. Besides, a number of private enterprises are having excellent sharing.

Carpets

Pile carpet is not a traditional craft of Ganjam district. With the settlement of Tibetan refugees in fifties around Chandragiri and Mahendragada in Mohana and R. Udayagir blocks respectively, this craft was introduced in the district and later covered under the Tibetan multi-purpose cooperative society. Now there are two woollen carpet cooperative societies functioning in name and style of) Tibetan Handicrafts LS. Ltd., At/Po. Lubrisinga, Mahendragada; and ii) Chandragiri Woollen Carpet WCS Ltd., Chandragiri and total membership of 141 and 59 with working carft artisan members of 85 and 40 respectively. Production of Rs. 14. 95 lakhs has been made in the year 1992-93 with a sale value of 17.9 lakhs.

Stone Carving

There are approximately 130 artisans engaged in stone-carving crafts. Stone-carving activity includes professions like traditional masonry, chariot building, lime manufacturing, temple designing, etc.

They are mainly located at Ganjam, Palsora and Khalikote blocks with 52,27,24, and 16 artisans. As per the Survey Report of DIC, Ganjam, stone-carving production value is Rs. 20.97 lakhs with a sale value of 26.15 lakhs in 1992-93.

Cane and Bamboo

Cane and bamboo have secured a unique place among ancient crafts of Orissa. Although the practice of bambooworks is abundant in Orissa canework is very rare. Of these 126 artisans only five artisans are covered under cooperative fold. As per the survey report of handicrafts prepared by DIC, Ganjam, the total value of production and sales amounts to 6.43 lakhs and 7.24 lakhs respectively in the year 1992-93.

Keora Essence

Keora *attar* produced in Ganjam district accounts to 90 percent of the country. The chief centres of production are Chatrapur, Berhampur, Kanishi, Jagannathpur and Gopalpur. Champak *attar* is produced at Parlakhemundi. Invariably the fresh flowers are water distilled. In the year 1992-93, it is estimated by the DIC, Ganjam, that 114 artisans were engaged in this activity and produced essence of value of 28.8 lakhs with a sale value of 32.75 lakhs.

Cotton Toy Making

Cotton toy, otherwise known as Ganjapa card is very old craft found in the district of Ganjam. A piece of cloth is taken and primed with a few quotings of tamarind seed glue and through various processes the cloth is dried and painted with lac-dye, *geru*, glue etc. for several times which gives a brownish colour. Then the desired shapes are drawn with brush.

There are around 109 artisans in this sector and they had produced toys worth of Rs. 2.82 lakhs with a sale rate of 3.06 lakhs in the year 1992-93. There are 50 artisans covered under the cooperative fold.

Patta Chitra

Patta chitra is one of the famous traditional crafts of Orissa where two pieces of cloth are struck with the help of tamarind gum. After the back-

ground is prepared various colour shreds and pictures of mythological importance are painted with vegetable dyes. Twenty artisans are covered under cooperative fold and others work independently. In the year 1992-93 the artisans in this trade had produced goods worth Rs.5.90 lakhs with a sale value of 6.70 lakhs.

Filigree

No wonder that Ganjam is well known for its excellent craftsmanship in gold and silver. As reported by the Survey Report of DIC, Ganjam, 69 artisans in the district have produced artistic filigree works worth 112.18 lakhs with sales value of 113.127 lakhs.

Wood-craft

Ganjam is famous for its artistic traditional wood carving work seen at Biranchinarayan temple (15th Century) using very matured sal woods. A very rare specimen in this temple is on Indian Palm. There are at least a few families of wood carvers at each place where there is a Jagannath temple, for building chariots. Of the 68 wood carvers, 29 artisans are members of cooperative societies. In the year 1992-93 the wood carvers had produced goods worth 6.69 lakhs with a sale value of 8.85 lakhs.

Horn-crafts

Horncraft is very well known among the tribals of Parlakhemundi now under the district of Gajapati. Among others, they used to make blowing instruments from horn. Particularly during the Second World War, hornware from Parlakhemundi was exported to USA and Europe. The unit of production is household in the practice of age-old traditional method. The instruments used are Egyptian saws, raps, parallel wooden clamps, chisels, hand dyes with socks, hand chasers marketing gazzes, etc.

The products include combs, bird, crocodile, monkey, camel, elephant, cow and calf, deer, duck, fighting bull, lizards, lion, peacock, etc. According to a study conducted by DIC, Ganjam, (1983-94), 64 artisans are engaged in the craft at Parlakhemundi town with 47 artisans under the cooperative society. This apart, 30 ladies were engaged part-time in the craft. For finished product, raw materials account for only 5-10 per cent of the cost of a horn

product. Wages account for 70-75 per cent and overheads around 20 per cent. During processing stage, artisans employ one or two hired labour. The products are mainly marketed in adjourned areas of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa through a cooperative society at Parlakhemundi known as Biswakarma Horn Craft Society and DGMCS, Berhampur.

This is in fact a very unique sector in tribal region of Parlakhemundi.

Papier-mache

The term papier-mache is applied to a material consisting of (i) either papier pulp mixed with glue, (ii) or sheets of paper pasted together which can be pressed or moulded to articles of various shapes. In Ganjam, this is made in the following process: cloth is primed with glue obtained from tamarind seed paste, and fixed to a few layers of paper. They are continually shaped while wet, if necessary small pieces of paper, straw, sholapith, dried and then chalk stone is applied, followed by a layer of glue. Previously only vegetable and earth colours were used although now water colours and varnishes are becoming popular. Traditional painters invariably make papier mache masks. Some times novices, apprentices, and women are exclusively employed in making paper mache also prepare in sophisticated paintings like *patta chitras* and Ganjapa cards.

There are 55 artisans engaged in this activity and had produced papier mache artistic works worth 2.44 lakhs with a sale value of 2.83 lakhs in the year 1992-93.

Lacquered Toys

These toys are made out of cow dung, clay, clippings of paper, jute and rags, and rice husks and put into different shapes by tamarind seed glue and various pigments. There are 51 artisans in the whole of the district. In the year 1992-93 they had produced goods worth Rs. 2.15 lakhs with a sale value of 2.40 lakhs.

Fabric Printing

The craft of silk weaving has been operating since 14th century as one of the famous and promising sectors in Ganjam district. The unit of pro-

duction is individual household and based on traditional hereditary occupation. The technology used is old traditional handloom-based. The members of the family-male, female and children participate in the labour process according to the traditional division of labour. These traditional crafts survive against modern industrial products because of the intrinsic merit in designing, colouring and artistic weaving. Weavers usually purchase silk yarn raw materials from Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. The production is marketed through Silk Weavers', Cooperative Society.

The product is sold in West Bengal, Orissa, and Andhra Pradesh. It has tremendous market potential in south India. This could explain, perhaps the fact, that the designs of Ganjam silk resemble those of Kanchipuram.

According to Orissa Handloom Cooperative Society the high concentration of workers is located in Hinjlicut and Pittal blocks.

Other Crafts

The other crafts available in the district of Ganjam are musical instruments, theatrical dresses, sea-shell, betel nut crafts, etc. The artists specialising in these are found in dispersed locations of the district.

Conclusion

Over the time, these sectors have shown a phenomenal growth and are an important part of the rural economy of the district. Cooperative societies are playing significant roles in the promotion of these sectors with some varied limitations. These sectors further require that the policy has to be framed to yoke off unnecessary petty regulations and the promotional institutions meant to serve it have to become more purposeful and accountable. The credit institutions need to overcome their risk aversion and improve their understanding and methods of assisting this sector. Producers, organisations need to be encouraged and enabled to play a leading role in the growth of this sector. If all goes well, these sectors could be a major alternative of farm sectors of the 21st Century.

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TEACHING, LEARNING AND THE HUMAN BRAIN :

Brain Based Learning must replace Rote Learning in Schools

Manas Ranjan Khuntia

Today, the world is at the threshold of the twenty-first century and new ideas, thoughts, impressions, and perceptions have matured into fresh discoveries, inventions and innovations. These have resulted in a tremendous explosion of knowledge on all fronts of life. Frontiers of knowledge have rapidly changed, rewritten and redefined, opening up new horizons for man. Pedagogy is no exception to this and many of the concepts of how best a teacher can teach, and the most appropriate method to be adopted by learners for effective learning, are being modified. "Change" is the catchword of the present era and in the context of this swiftly changing world of knowledge, there is a strong rationale for change in the teaching-learning process from the perspective of the learner, that is from rote learning to brain based learning, which would ultimately bring about a change in the schools and our educational system as well.

Results of extensive researches on the human brain have led to the undeniable fact that in order to improve education, knowledge of the way the human brain learns, particularly when it functions optimally, is of vital importance. Rote learning of unconnected content generally results in surface knowledge, but the human brain is eternally endeavouring to find links between content. Therefore, instead of depending on the century old concept of rote learning, the perpetual yearning of the human brain to create a meaningful pattern can be satisfied by integrating the contents of learning. Thus, educators have to reconceptualise teaching, change the teaching-learning method, integrate the curriculum and present the content in a context the learner is well acquainted with. Brain based learning should be adopted with the objective of helping students to have experiences in complexity, chal-

lenge and creativity, equal to those of creative experts. To make this kind of learning possible, educators would have to understand and perform their role as 'learning-facilitators' and provide the right kind of atmosphere—relaxed and tension free, as evidence suggests that some types of learning are positively affected by relaxation and challenge, while a perceived threat inhibits them. A philosophy of education built on reducing the threat will prove to be highly beneficial.

Brain researches reveal the design of the brain as a 'pattern detector'. The role of educators, therefore, is to provide students with experiences that equip them to perceive the 'patterns that connect'. Students learn best from experiences. Complex and concrete experiences are essential for meaningful teaching and learning. The effort of the educator should be on optimising the infinite capacity of the human brain to make connections and understand the conditions which maximise this process. It is the duty of the educator to strive for the expansion of the quantity and quality of ways a learner is exposed to the content and context. The process can be termed as 'immersion'. For maximum learning, the learner needs to talk, listen, read, view, act and evaluate. In other words, the learner, instead of being a passive receiver, has to be an active participant in the teaching, learning process.

Learners should be prepared for the rapidly changing world of knowledge and this requires much more than mere memorisation. The world is in need of individuals who can govern themselves, solve problems, make decisions and the aim of modern educators should be to prepare such individuals. For this, students must internalise whatever they have learnt. At present, schools are factories where learning takes place

in a mechanical manner, similar to the assembly line routine adopted in a factory for production, often ignoring individual and cultural differences, with the end product being a 'combination of parts which are readily identifiable'. This 'fragmented', assembly line education, actually hampers the capacity of the individual to link up subjects and life. Schools organised on the factory-line model do not open doors to the future, they imprison students in their own minds. School going children today, the 'electronic media kids' need new patterns of perception, understanding and evaluation, that is, a new kind of education. Therefore, at present, educators have to redefine their role of information feeders and become generators of meaningful, connecting and linking knowledge, who can not only use the appropriate software but can also engage in interactive questioning and exploration of information. Brain based learning focusses on the teacher as 'facilitator of learning'; for this, a new model for educational theory and practice is needed. Educators have to realise that it is the brain of the learner that learns, and know not only its anatomy but also about the underlying theories and facts, the basic operations that allow development of a solid and basic set of assumptions regarding how to teach so as to bring about the best learning. The findings of brain researches indicate that the brain is a parallel processor where many things occur simultaneously and an infinite number of connections are possible. During the formative years of a child, the development of the brain is made slowly and gradually, myriads of nerve cell connections are made, there are periods of 'brain spurts' followed by periods of consolidation and rest. The brain achieves definite physiological growth when stimulated through environmental interactions, thereby confirming the fact that alongwith innate potentials, a healthy, stimulating and rich environment is essential for growth.

Each brain is unique and the existence of individual difference of learning is a resultant of this. The brain, as a whole, functions with different constituent parts being dominant at different states of arousal and effective learning al-

ways involves alternation of several states of arousal. At the base of successful teaching and learning there is an understanding of these states of arousal and involving elements like proper timing, ability to create anticipation and excitement. Therefore, for effective teaching 'customised teaching methods can not be the answer', 'learning style' and 'state of mind' of an individual learner at a particular point of time should be the prime concern of the teacher. A thorough knowledge of content, variation and creativity as well as critical elements which help in the development of correct learning pattern are essential in schools, regardless of personal styles and preferences.

In the brain, there are no compartments; therefore, 'all knowledge is embedded in other knowledge' and there is a tremendous amount of overlapping. The ability to perceive this interpretation, understand and teach accordingly, constitutes one of the corner-stones of brain based learning. Every activity involves a sense of the 'wholeness of things' and 'a capacity to work with patterns'. Schools should, therefore, provide the opportunity to develop all abilities even though some activities are preferred to others.

In a nut-shell, the principles of brain based learning may be enumerated as follows :-

1. The brain is a parallel processor.
2. Learning engages the entire physiology.
3. The search for meaning is innate, which occurs through patterning.
4. Emotions are critical to patterning.
5. The brain processes parts and wholes simultaneously.
6. Learning involves both focussed attention and peripheral perception.
7. Learning always involves conscious and unconscious processes.
8. In learning, two types of memory are involved at least (a) Spatial memory system set and (b) a set of systems for rote learning.
9. Understanding and remembering are best when facts and skills are embedded in natural spatial memory.
10. Learning is enhanced by challenge and inhibited by threat.

The mind is always trying to make 'connections'. Humans are, therefore, born to learn. Search for meaning is at the heart of intrinsic motivation; much of the energy to pursue goals and engage in essential tasks comes from the search for meaning. Motivation, discipline and student retention are among the vital issues in education. All these are related and educators

who have a grasp of felt meaning, have a definite tool for dealing with these issues.

The educators should teach new information and procedures by taking advantage of what students already know. The path of guidance should be clear, proceeding from the known to the unknown, from the specific to the general, and from the concrete to the abstract.

Assistant Public Relations Officer to
Chief Minister

Visit of Mr. Vikrom Kromadit, President, Amata City Co. Ltd. Thailand to Orissa

Mr. Vikrom Kromadit visited Orissa from 30-12-96 to 1-1-97 in order to explore the possibility of developing world class industrial estates in our State. Their company specialises in providing quality industrial infrastructure and they are one of the largest developers of industrial park in Thailand. They have already made an investment of US \$1500 million and projects for another US \$4000 million are in the pipeline. The visit comes as a sequel to the visit of Orissa Delegation to Thailand led by the Chief Minister Shri J. B. Patnaik from 27th to 29th October, 1996. Mr. Kromadit has developed several industrial parks in Thailand and other parts of South East Asia. These parks provide world class facilities like concrete roads, waste water treatment, solid waste treatment. Utilities are maintained efficiently after handing over the developed land to the customer. Their clients include companies like Toyota, Mitsubishi, Sony, Colgate-Palmolive etc.

Mr. Kromadit visited several areas like Paradip Port and its hinterland, Haridaspur, Puri and Bhubaneswar. He held wide ranging discussions with senior Govt. officials. As a follow-up to this visit, senior executives from his company will visit Orissa during January, 1997 in order to concretise specific industrial park projects.

- ★ Dr. Satyanarayan Rajguru, Orissa's eminent elderly scholar and indologist has bagged the Central **Sahitya Akademi Award** for this year for his autobiography *Mo Jeevan Sangram* (My Struggle in Life)
- ★ Sachi Routray, a giant literary figure of Orissa, has been selected to receive the **Sahitya Bharati Samman** (instituted by Sri Gangadhar Rath Foundation amounting to rupees one lakh) this year.
- ★ IITM (Indian Institute of Tourism & Travel Management) has recently set-up a Regional Centre in the State Capital, Bhubaneswar.
- ★ 28 more backward classes from Orissa have been included in the Central list of OBCs.
- ★ A Rs. 29.92 Cr. scheme for the development of Capital City sewerage with Norwegian bilateral assistance (NOARD) is in the offing.
- ★ The State may get Rs. 278-cr NABARD aid for its rural infrastructure.
- ★ The Rushikulya mouth in Ganjam district may earn the credit of becoming the second largest nesting place of Olive Ridley sea turtles after the Gahiramatha beach.

Compensation & distribution of patta by 30th June, 1997

Affected families of oustees which have not yet received compensation on account of implementation of the Hirakud Multipurpose Dam Project are being identified and enlisted by the government for rendering them compensation, homestead land and patta by June, 1997 as announced by Sri K.C. Lenka, Minister, Revenue & Transport recently.



Chief Minister Shri J. B. Patnaik witnessing the *Pala* performance at Telengapentha organised by All Orissa Pala Gayaka Sangha on 28-12-1996.



Mr. S. M. Sadan, Deputy High Commissioner of Britain (posted at Calcutta) calling on Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik on 17-12-1996.



In the valedictory of the year-long centenary celebration of Dr. Radhanath Rath, Editor, the Samaj being celebrated at his birth place Athagarh amidst rejoicings. Among the dignitaries present on the occasion are Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik; Dr. Radhanath Rath; Shri Bhagabat Prasad Mohanty, Minister, Higher Education; Shri Bhupinder Singh, Minister, Culture & Shri Netrananda Mallick, Minister of State, I. & P.R.



Women hockey players of the Punjab team introducing themselves to Chief Minister Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik on the eve of the match between Orissa & Punjab at the Barabati Stadium, Cuttack on 7-12-1996.